United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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 - Th	e Carnegie Public L	ibrary		·····		
and/or common	Missoula Museum	of the Arts				
2. Loca	ation					
street & number	, 335 North Patt	ee Street-	1	M/A: not for publication		
city, town	Missoula	vicinity of	congressional district	Western		
state Monta	na cod	e <u>30</u> county	Missoula	code 063		
3. Clas	sification					
Category district X_ building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted X yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	X museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:		
4. Own	ner of Prope	rtv				
street & number	/ 0 ¹ / 11 33 0	ttn: Mayor Bill Cr Dl West Spruce vicinity of	egg state	Montana		
5. Loca	ation of Leg	al Descripti	on			
courthouse, regi street & number	istry of deeds, etc. Misso 200 West Broadwa		use, Office of Cler	∿k & Recorder		
city, town Missoula			state Montana			
6. Rep	resentation	in Existing	Surveys			
_	a Historical Resour			legible? yes _X no		
date 1980			_X_ federal sta	ate county _X_ local		
depository for si	urvey records Montana	Historical Society				
city, town	Helena		state	Montana		

7. Description

_X__ good

_ fair

ndition		Check one
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered
_ good	ruins	_X altered
_ fair	unexposed	

Check one X original site moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Missoula Museum of the Arts Building, formerly the Carnegie Library, is a small neo-Classical masonry structure on a flat lawned site bordering both an urban and a residential district. Although the lawn, trees and wrought iron fence give the building a slight setback and soften its relationship with the street, the entry stairs abut the sidewalk and firmly ground the building in an urban context.

The Museum has a tripartite composition of three bays on the principal (east) facade. The flanking bays of the first story have two windows closely arranged. The central bay is a pedimented entry with granite stair leading up to a pair of doors surmounted by a painted bas relief panel. The doors are flanked by a pair of granite Doric columns the height of the principal story. These columns are paired with square pilasters of the same height. The pediment has a dentilated raking cornice.

The structure has a buff and grey colored brick base with grey mortar which sits on one course of rock-faced granite ashlar masonry. The base is terminated by a painted granite water table course with an interlocking design which appears like terra-cotta. The principal story is of red brick with red mortar. Window architraves are a polychromy of granite keystones, granite flat trim and buff-grey brick. The entablature is buff-grey brick with a painted galvanized cornice which has egg and dart moulding, dentils and ogee. The second story is a dark grey textured stucco with large smooth white stucco quoins. There is a plywood soffit and metal ogee rain gutter. Windows are one-over-one double-hung and have a small fixed transom. The Museum has a hip roof. An open fire escape stair has been added to the back of the structure.

The interior, having been remodeled for gallery use, maintains most of its original spatial characteristics, and has many historic surfaces, mouldings, doors and other The original "cork carpet" exists on the third level and the original elements. linoleum exists in the basement. The basement is almost wholly historic except for missing furnishings and a new furnace. No deterioration of any materials is evident.

The basement, originally two stack and reading rooms with storage and furnace rooms, is now a storage area. The first floor, originally stacks, reading and book circulation, is now the principal gallery. The second floor, originally stacks, reading and offices, is now office, gallery and conference rooms.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below					
prehistoric	.	<u>X</u> community planning	landscape architecture			
1400–1499	archeology-historic	conservation	law	science		
1500–1599	agriculture	economics	literature	sculpture		
1600–1699	<u> </u>	<u>X</u> education	military	social/		
1700–1799	art	engineering	music	humanitarian		
1800–1899	commerce	exploration/settlement	t philosophy	theater		
<u> X </u>	communications	industry	politics/government	transportation		
		invention		other (specify)		

Specific dates 1903 Addition 1913 Builder/Architect Original - A. J. Gibson

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Addition - Ole Bakke

On January 21, 1902 the City of Missoula purchased the title to this property from J. M. and Hattie Keith for fifteen thousand dollars. The Public Library was constructed in 1903 with twelve thousand and five hundred dollars from the Carnegie Foundation; hence its early name: the Carnegie Public Library. As with many communities boasting a Carnegie Library, there was considerable pride and a central position in the community with the library: "The library is one of the best in the entire state, is equipped with new appliances throughout and has the latest system of indexes to the books on the shelves." (Missoulian, September 18, 1904.)

The original 1903 building was designed by architect A. J. Gibson. The 1913 second story addition was designed by Ole Bakke, an architect who started out in Gibson's office. A. J. Gibson (1862-1927) was an architect of major importance to this region and especially to the community of Missoula, designing many of its most prominent buildings, the majority of which still exist today as local landmarks and influence the style and tone of the city.

The decade between 1900 and 1910 in which the original library building was built reflected Missoula's major growth and development period. The Northern Pacific Railway expanded its services, and the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railway completed lines through Montana and Missoula. This period also saw the growth of Missoula's diverse manufacturing and lumber industries. The addition reflected this growth and a need for additional library space. The structure's educational function was implicit as a community library and continues today with the art museum.

The structure's association with A. J. Gibson, the Carnegie Foundation, and with Missoula's public history gives it historical significance.

Architecturally the structure gains significance because it was originally the Carnegie Library, and the design followed the neo-Classical format generally used in their construction. There has been a second story addition to the structure which has altered its original design integrity but the addition integrates detailing that is sympathetic to the original structure. The material integrity is very good and the structure is a pivotal building in the area.

9. N	lajor Bib	liogra	phic	al Refe	rence	<u> </u>		
Missoul Septemb build s	la Historical ber 18, 1904 (second library 1944." (unpu	Resource new libra); "The M	<u>Survey</u> (ry), Apr lissoula	1980) p. 1 il 20, 196 Free Public	22; <u>Missou</u> and Apri Library:	<u>lian</u> newsp 1 18, 1971	(considerat	s ion to
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11.	Form Pre	epare	d By					
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2.	State Hi	storic	Pres	ervati	on Offi	icer C	ertificat	tion
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