

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received **JUL 21 1983**
date entered

1. Name

historic Vermillion Public ² Andrew Carnegie Library

and/or common Old Library

2. Location

street & number 12 Church Street NA not for publication

city, town Vermillion NA vicinity of

state South Dakota code 46 county Clay code 027

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> </u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture
<u> </u> building(s)	<u> </u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial
		<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military
			<u> </u> museum
			<u> </u> park
			<u> </u> private residence
			<u> </u> religious
			<u> </u> scientific
			<u> </u> transportation
			<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property

name City of Vermillion

street & number 25 Center

city, town Vermillion NA vicinity of state SD 57069

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Clay County Register of Deeds

street & number 211 W. Main

city, town Vermillion state SD

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Clay County Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1982 federal state county local

depository for survey records Historical Preservation Center

city, town Vermillion state SD

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent

☒ good

☐ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

very slightly

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

A small structure located off the main business street, the Carnegie Library is situated at the historic governmental center of the city. One story in height, the structure is veneered with a light brown, speckled brick, and trimmed in Neo-Classical details.

The first floor is raised off street level with a half-story basement. This is articulated on the exterior with a rusticated stone story designed as a watertable. The plan is a very small Neo-Classical design. The central entrance bay projects in a portico beyond the front facade. However, the door is recessed and flanked by two stone columns. The main body of the building is approximately 22 by 60 feet and contains the lobby with check-out desk, and two flanking reading rooms. A rear, central ell contains the shelves and small, rectangular, units which contain an office and toilets, flank the stack room. A metal, octagonal dome contains a skylight which lights the lobby. On the exterior, the front facade is composed in three bays; the side bays containing two windows each. The side facades are two bays and the rear units one bay. On the rear the stack room is lighted by a large, three-part window.

Used presently as offices, the building has suffered few changes. The front door is a recent alteration.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1904 **Builder/Architect** Joseph Schwarz, Architect, Sioux Falls, SD

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Erected in 1904, the Vermillion Public - Andrew Carnegie Library is significant in the areas of architecture, education and local government. As the city's public library it represents the first efforts of government to provide public library facilities. In addition, the compact Neo-Classical design is an accomplished example of this style on a small scale.

The first efforts towards organizing a public library came in 1901 when a library association was formed. Prior to that time, library services were provided through private ventures such as the Chautauqua reading circle. A public campaign was initiated to raise money and in 1902 Andrew Carnegie was contacted concerning a donation. In February 1903, he gave \$10,000 with the understanding that the city would set aside \$1000 a year to maintain the library. On July 15, 1904, the library of books was installed in the new facility and for a salary of \$25 a month, Mary Gunderson was appointed the city librarian.

Nine libraries in South Dakota have been recorded as Carnegie - assisted projects. Built between 1902 and 1919, the libraries were designed by local or regional architects. Joseph Schwarz, one of the two early architects in the state, designed three of the structures. He employed native Sioux quartzite in Sioux Falls, but a warm, light brown brick for Vermillion. The pleasingly proportioned and skillful design is one of a handful of architectural landmarks in Vermillion. In 1976 when a new library was built immediately to the south, the structure was converted to use as a law office.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Herbert Schell, History of Clay County, South Dakota, Broadcasting Printers; Vermillion, SD, 1976: 184.
Recording of Proceedings, Vermillion City Council, 1903-4.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1/2 acre

Quadrangle name Vermillion

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UTM References

A

1	4
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6	6	9	3	1	5
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4	7	3	8	1	1	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The lot lines of the property form the boundary of the site, which is located in Lots 11 & 12, Block 26 of the original plat of Vermillion.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
NA			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Wally Doolittle technical editing: Carolyn Torma

organization Southeastern Council of Governments date 23 May 83

street & number 25 Center telephone 605-624-8066

city or town Vermillion state SD 57069

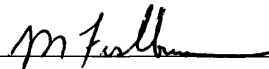
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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

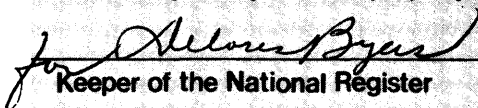


title Director, Office of Cultural Preservation

date 7/12/83

For NPS use only

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


Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 8/18/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration