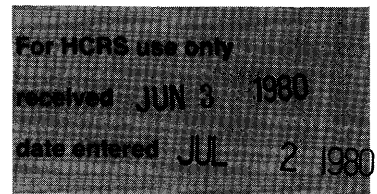


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Rochester Public Library

and/or common Mayo Medical School Student Center

2. Location

street & number 226 Second Street Southwest not for publication

city, town Rochester vicinity of congressional district First

state Minnesota code 22 county Olmsted code 109

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

4. Owner of Property

name Mayo Foundation

street & number 701 Fourth Street Southwest

city, town Rochester vicinity of state Minnesota 55901

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Olmsted County Courthouse

street & number 515 Second Street Southwest

city, town Rochester state Minnesota 55901

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Resources has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979-80 federal state county local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society -- 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House

city, town St. Paul, state Minnesota 55102

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Rochester Public Library building is situated on a corner lot just west of the downtown commercial center of Rochester. It is located less than a block from the National Landmark Plummer and 1914 Buildings, but is separated from them by more recently constructed Mayo Clinic facilities. The library building was designed in the Jacobethan style (variously called English Tudor Revival or Resurgence, or Jacobean). Its irregular plan, rectangular windows with rectangular lights and stone mullions, ridged roofs, bay window, and triangular gables are characteristic of the style. Also characteristic are round arched or Tudor doorways enclosed within sculpted frames.

The building is constructed of random-range quarry-faced ashlar dolomite limestone quarried at Kasota, Minnesota. Its main entrance is located within a projecting bay on the north side of the building. Bas-relief sculptures and inscriptions flank the door; the bronze doors themselves are panelled with a variety of symbols pertaining to literature, education, and the arts. A carved owl is located atop the north entrance gable. The west entrance is similarly located within a projecting bay and sculpted frame. Although less detailed, the frame is composed of carved stone; the door is wood with metal bands.

The exterior retains total design integrity.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1937 **Builder/Architect** Harold H. Crawford (exterior), Peter P. Bross (interior) Associate Architects

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Rochester Public Library is significant as an exceptionally well-designed, well-executed, and well-preserved example of PWA urban architecture. The building is designed not in the Moderne style favored for many PWA buildings but in the Jacobethan style favored by many Rochester citizens of the time and, notably, by the building's architect, Harold H. Crawford. (It should also be noted that the style was believed to be particularly appropriate for educational buildings. See Marcus Whiffin's American Architecture Since 1780.) Along with Peter P. Bross, who designed the interior, Crawford, Rochester's best known and most prolific architect, designed what has become the finest and best-preserved example of Jacobethan public architecture in the city. Fine craftsmanship and attention to detail is evident in the decorative doors, masonry, and stone carvings; as a whole the building testifies to the labor intensive nature of many PWA structures. The building has been a landmark in the community since its construction in 1936-37 as a public library; it continues to serve an educational role in the city as the student center for the Mayo Medical School.

Although the building is less than 50 years old, its architectural significance and association with federal depression-era programs provide the basis for nomination at this time.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Rochester, MN Quad.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A

1	5	5	4	2	7	3	0	4	8	7	4	1	5	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Original Plat

W. 1/2 Lot 8

All of Lots 9, 10 Block 17

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 Robert Frame

organization Minnesota Historical Society date 3 April 1980

street & number 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House telephone 612-296-9074

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Russell W. Fridley*

Russell Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 5/22/80

For HCRS use only

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

W. Ray date 7/2/80
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: *Justin O'Connell*

Chief of Registration date 6/30/80

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUN 3 1980
DATE ENTERED	JUL 2 1980

Rochester Public Library

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Gebhard, David, and Tom Martinson. A Guide to the Architecture of Minnesota.
Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1977. p. 314

"Rochester Public Library, Rochester, Minnesota, 1865-1943". Descriptive brochure
issued by Rochester Public Library. 1943(?)

Severson, Harold. Rochester: Mecca for Millions. Rochester: Marquette Bank and
Trust Company, 1979. p. 132.

Whiffen, Marcus. American Architecture Since 1780. A Guide to the Styles.
Cambridge, Massachusetts: The M.I.T. Press, 1969. pp. 178-182.