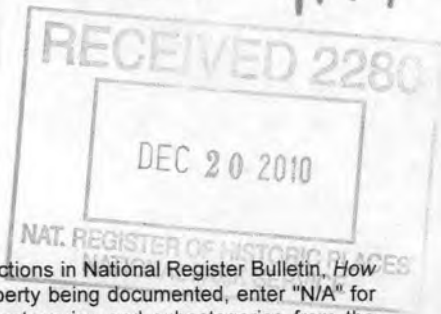


1199

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Dixon Carnegie Library

other names/site number Dixon Union High School Library Dixon Public Library

2. Location

street & number 135 East B Street not for publication

city or town Dixon vicinity

state California code CA county Solano code 095 zip code 95620

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Wayne
Signature of certifying official
California State Historic Preservation Officer
Title

15 DEC 20 10
Date

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

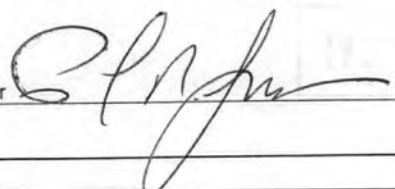
Carnegie Library
Name of Property

Solano CA
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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register _____ determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register _____ removed from the National Register
 other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper 

Date of Action 2/4/2011

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only one box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
 public - Local
 public - State
 public - Federal

- building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/library

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/library

Carnegie Library
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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals

Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: BRICK

STUCCO

roof: WOOD

other: ASPHALT

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

(see continuation sheets)

Narrative Description

(see continuation sheets)

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Continuation Sheet

Carnegie Library

Name of Property
Solano, CA

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 1

Summary Paragraph

The Dixon Carnegie Library is an approximately 2000 square-foot rectilinear building designed in a Spanish Colonial Revival style incorporating simplified Classical detail and California Mission decorative elements. The structure sits one story above a raised basement on a parcel of land 65' wide by 60' deep. It is centrally located in the downtown commercial district on East B Street between North First and North Second streets adjacent to a well-utilized city park. It was designed by architects Parker and Kenyon from San Francisco and built by the contracting firm of Brady and Fischer also from San Francisco. The size and shape of the building met the required standard formula for libraries built with Carnegie grants. It is constructed of brick with concrete steps and plaster exterior finish coats. The symmetrically positioned design elements are focal points on the facade. Decorative components in the California Mission style were incorporated to blend with the neighboring post office building. Restoration and additions attached to the rear of the Carnegie building were done in 1957, 1989 and 1990. In 1992 the interior of the Carnegie was renovated and painted to look similar to the interiors of the other newer spaces. The additions and alterations are not visible from the entrance façade as seen from the street, and the stucco refinishing does not detract from the original materials.

The library is located near a historic residential district that once housed Dixon citizens that were influential in establishing the Carnegie Library. The library is within walking distance to local schools as well as to downtown business, banking and shops. It retains its historic function as a library facility and social meeting place for the people of the City of Dixon to the present day.

Narrative Description

The Carnegie Library is located in the historic "old downtown" Dixon. Built in 1912, the Carnegie is designed as a tall single-story above a raised basement masonry building. The partially sunken basement is six feet above ground level. All walls are two bricks thick mortared into place. Several windows which allowed light to enter the lower level were placed along the front and sides. Below the flat roof and flat parapet is a block modillion cornice, a plain frieze and banded architrave. The building's design features on the otherwise plain exterior create a formal appearance that was consistent with civic buildings of the era. The south elevation is punctuated at the mid-point by a recessed entrance with indented pilasters on either side. The entrance is reached by eight broad concrete steps sided with sloping banisters also made of concrete. The globe-light posts attached to the curvilinear ends of the banisters were subsequently removed and used on an adjacent residence.

Above the doorway is a narrow projecting cornice, which repeats the building's main cornice on a smaller scale. Below that is a frieze with the words "Carnegie Library" in sculptured relief letters. A fixed transom light tops the double wooden doors. The original doors were dark wood and multi-paned, as was the transom, and opened inward to the building. The replacement doors have large single panes of clear glass framed in oak, which open to the outside as safety codes deemed it necessary. The entrance is flanked on each side by a quatrefoil window with iron grille work. Midway toward the outer edges of the front elevation are elaborate three-paned windows; the central window being dominant in size to those on either side. Engaged columns with Ionic capitals separate the three single windowpanes. The outer two panes, originally casement-type operating windows, were replaced in 1990 with insulated fixed glass panes due to deterioration. Although new, the frames and sashes are fabricated from wood, which remain harmonious with the historical integrity of the original building design. Topping the window is a semi-circular blind fanlight capped by a keystone and sided with indented panels. Below the window is a full unadorned architrave over a deep lug sill. The windows on the eastern and western side elevations are of the same design. Plaster scone ornaments are attached near the upper corners of the facade and above the quatrefoil windows. Along the east wall is a 15-foot wide alley separating the library from the adjacent property, and which leads directly to the City Park at the north wall. The west wall shares a narrow service walkway with the adjacent historic post office building and is gated from the street.

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Continuation Sheet

Carnegie Library

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Section number 7 Page 2

Narrative Description (continued)

The entire building was finished with a smooth plaster veneer on the upper two-thirds and cement designed to simulate stone and mortar was applied to the raised basement area when it was newly constructed. A cornerstone testifies as to the date of 1912. The exterior faux-stone basement walls, including the windows that are no longer visible from the outside, were boarded and plastered over due to leakage in the basement sometime in the late 1970's or early 1980's. During renovations in 1990-1992, the entire Carnegie building received a fresh coat of textured plaster. Although the stucco coating is new, the modifications blend with the historic look and feel of the original materials and workmanship. The Library retains a high level of integrity and maintains design features and the sense of the period of construction despite these recent changes.

Positioned at either side of the entrance facade are hand-cut white marble plaques. On the left side are the carved names of the first Library Board of Trustees: J.H. Rice, E. D. Dudley, W.A. Porter, C.E. Clausen, R.J. Currey, R.D. Mayes and Mrs. O.C. Schultz commemorating the dedication of the building in 1913. Also carved in are the words, "Gift of Andrew Carnegie." The matching plaque to the right honors the re-dedication ceremony held in 1992 with the names of the committee members listed to complete the symmetrical effect. The basement level entrance is accessed by cement steps perpendicular to and directly under the main stairway.

The interior of the Carnegie has tall built-in bookcases topped with deep crown molding lining the walls between the windows. Square-shaped pilasters are placed equidistant from the outer walls and have painted wood wainscoting. All of the original dark-stained wood trim and paneling have been painted. During updates to the interior lighting, electrical and HVAC equipment, suspended acoustical and fluorescent lighting panels were applied to the ceiling. The original plaster 14-foot ceiling still exists above the panels. In recent years, the wood floorboards have been covered with wall-to-wall carpeting.

At the back wall, a door that opens to a narrow winding staircase leads to the full basement with 10-foot ceilings. The walls are smooth plaster except for the lobby area where the walls are wainscoted to a height of seven feet. The basement level is separated into several rooms which once served as meeting rooms, children's schoolroom, storage closets, and furnace room. Staff work areas and a restroom were also located on the lower level. The original furnace still remains though HVAC units throughout the building have replaced the first oil-burning heating system. Supporting beams and pillars were positioned in the two largest rooms for structural reinforcement in the late 1980's. During earlier renovations the basement windows were boarded and plastered over because of leaks. The sash and frames remain extant in the interior basement walls. Some of the original glass-front bookcases are now used in the basement including some rare and first editions remaining from the earliest days of the library. The basement is presently used for the circulating stored book collection and other general storage. It is no longer accessible to the public.

The library underwent two additions that are attached to the north-facing rear of the building. A shed-roof brick structure completed in 1958 which doubled the existing floor space and added a children's library, and an L-shape extension wing built in 1989 that increased the space for expanded collections, reference and staff office areas. Though not in keeping with the architectural style of the Carnegie, the exterior brick facing and supporting columns at either side of the new entrance are compatible. The additions are accessed by a short set of interior steps that lead to ground floor level from the left side of the Carnegie's rear wall. An ADA-compliant lift aids disabled patrons in negotiating the two levels. The children's library room is visible through a large glassed-in wall opening that replaces that portion of the right side rear wall. The two original north wall windows at the back of the building were removed to allow for the extension. The central portion of the back wall contains the door to the basement. Next to it is an enclosed office, which houses the archives collection and projects into the addition dividing the children's and reference areas.

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Narrative Description (continued)

In 1987, the city taxpayers approved Measure L, a five-year parcel tax that provided the funds necessary for reinforcing structural elements in the aging historic Carnegie building. Some of the revenues from this bond were apportioned to pay for the upgrading and modernization of internal systems as well as creating the new wing and exterior beautification. During renovation in 1990, the whole exterior was newly stuccoed and painted in taupe and beige with white wood trim and rust-red accents. The area set back from the sidewalk in front of the building was landscaped with grass and shrubbery. At a subsequent date, the shrubs were removed for maintenance reasons. The remaining landscaping consists of two small plots of grass on either side of the front steps.

Along with the 1990 addition, the library's main entrance was reconfigured to convey street level access and the address changed to 230 North First Street. When the improvements using Measure L funds were first proposed, the plan was to add ramps for the disabled to the B Street Carnegie entrance and to make the basement again accessible to the public. Instead, the City of Dixon granted a portion of the Women's Improvement Club Park with the understanding that it would revert to parkland in the event that the district ever removed the building addition. Since the additions are connected to the north elevation at the rear of the building, they are not visible from the original face of the Carnegie and do not detract from its historical presence. The line of sight to the newer wing is broken by the commercial building next to it. The original character of the building remains identifiable by its present façade as the look and feel of the building's historic association is retained.

The alley along the east wall of the building is accessible to the public and leads to the back of the children's library and to the Women's Improvement Club Park beyond it.

The park is landscaped with mature trees, lawn and walkways. Prominently located on the North First Street side of the park is a sign with the words "Women's Improvement Club Park," a flagpole and statuary. Opening out from the glass wall and exit doors on the rear of the children's library is a large patio that can be accessed for enjoying special programming and library events during warm weather.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1912-

Significant Dates

1912-1913

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Parker and Kenyon, Architects

Brady and Fischer, Builders

Period of Significance (justification)

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Carnegie Library
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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

(see continuation sheets)

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

(see continuation sheets)

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

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Carnegie Library

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Dixon Carnegie Library has supported the community's need for library services since 1912 and is significant within the context of the development of the social and cultural fabric of Dixon. Located in the historic downtown, the Carnegie Library has contributed fundamentally to the development of cultural advancement in Dixon and the neighboring vicinities. It is being nominated for the National Register under Criteria A as it has been pivotal to the progression of education and culture in the social history of Dixon. Not only was it the first building in the area dedicated for the purpose of free public library use, it was also the first library built using Carnegie grant money in Solano County.

Narrative Statement of Significance and Historical Context

Settled in 1868, Dixon was first known as Dicksonville. It was named for Thomas Dickson who donated an acre of land for the proposed train station. Dixon had no real center of market activity until the Southern Pacific Railroad decided to extend their railway system. When the railroad came through, it was economically advantageous for the citizens to change the town's boundaries. The townspeople relocated several buildings by rolling them on logs bringing them closer to the new train station. Due to a stationmaster's misspelling, Dicksonville became The City of Dixon.

At the time, trade was based upon agriculture and ranching, primarily sheep and dairy cattle. With the advent of the railroad, many transient workers were hired and brought in to lay the tracks. Enterprising shopkeepers realized that they could profit by providing hotel accommodations and entertainment to the mostly young male rail workers. Eventually the downtown became blighted with saloons, bordellos and gambling halls. Public displays of drunkenness and fist fighting made it difficult for the townspeople and merchants to conduct normal day-to-day business. Before long, the citizens became concerned and took measures to "clean up" the downtown district.

As the population of Solano County's townships grew, the need for a connection with culture and the broader society became more important. The literary and cultural needs of urbanized cities could be satisfied with grand municipal library buildings run by professional librarians. The rural citizens of Solano County however, received only sporadic visits by horse-drawn travelling libraries, which could not sufficiently serve the diverse population. In more settled vicinities, an available alternative might be a "reading room" set up in a storefront or in a private residence that could be used during specified hours. Although short-lived, The Dixon Reading Club was one such alternative.

In 1899, a woman's group in Dixon known as the Shakespearean Club traveled to nearby settlements giving lectures and performing plays and recitals. Their aim was to entertain as well as to culturally enlighten their audiences. In 1903 the group changed their name and became The Women's Improvement Club of Dixon whose focus was promoting the betterment of their community. During the early years of the twentieth century, women's groups and clubs across our nation were instrumental in helping to broaden school curricula and in raising awareness about the importance of having local museums and libraries.

The longing to obtain a building for the purpose of a library became a growing concern that garnered the attention of Dixon's civic leaders. Beginning in 1898, the philanthropic program administered through the Carnegie Corporation in New York City made it possible for cities and towns desiring a library to apply for a grant if they could meet certain conditions. Money would not be granted for library construction until the citizens could first agree to obtain a plot of land and to promise they would manage the operating and maintenance costs on their own. Since the economy of Dixon was not predicated upon a large enough population to support the cost of construction, nor the ongoing expenses of a library, it initially appeared to be an unfeasible proposition.

The Dixon Women's Improvement Club (DWIC) learned of the endowments for libraries given by Andrew Carnegie that made it possible for qualifying communities to afford new libraries. They strongly felt the need for a library building that

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Section number 8 Page 5**Statement of Significance** (continued)

would provide education and a level of culture that could not be obtained otherwise. They also were anxious for the opportunity to revitalize the dilapidated downtown and to replace the shabby structures with a library building that would restore a sense of civic pride. At their urging, J.H. Peterson, state assemblyman and resident of the area, wrote to Andrew Carnegie's private secretary James Bertram in August of 1905. He asked for grant money and explained that the city wanted a library added to the high school property to improve those facilities. Since the inhabitants of Dixon would not be able to afford the conditions of the grant, the request was denied. The DWIC were confident that such a grant would eventually be given to Dixon. Although some of the city's elected officials were not enthusiastic about undertaking the required commitment to obtain the Carnegie funds; the ladies' persistence eventually overcame their hesitation.

J.H. Petersen corresponded with the Governor and was successful in sponsoring a bill that would allow a library to be supported by a High School District rather than just the city alone. Since the population of Dixon was then only about 1000 residents, the city and surrounding areas served by the high school district would join for taxation purposes. The Governor signed the new California State bill in 1909 that permitted the formation of library districts. After 1911, a library could be established within an existing school district. The Board of Trustees that was elected to supervise the administration of the high school district would also be responsible for overseeing the management of the district library. The Dixon Union High School District Library District of Solano County thereby came into existence serving residents in a 196 square mile area of eastern Solano County.

Dixon was the first city to find an answer to the problem of obtaining library funds, by becoming a high school library district independent of the county. This solution was eventually copied by more than 15 other small rural communities. Today only three districts remain--Dixon, Vacaville and Coalinga.

Members of the DWIC pioneered a letter campaign and several letters requesting a library grant were sent to Mr. Carnegie and replied to by James Bertram, his private secretary entrusted with the grant administration duties. As requests for grants became numerous, Bertram had devised a more stringent application process. A questionnaire had to be successfully answered in order to receive the money that was to be used solely for the construction cost of the building. Most importantly, the citizens had to agree to levy a tax of ten percent of the grant to pay for books and operating costs and to contribute an additional amount towards the project. The city had to demonstrate that land had been acquired with proof of deed and building plans approved by James Bertram. Some applicants were turned down because they could not agree to raise the money necessary to keep a library operating. Bertram required that all of the stipulations must be met before further consideration of a potential grant.

The Carnegie Corporation grants given in California ranged in the amounts of \$2500 to \$750,000 usually based upon population size. The amount most commonly given was \$10,000 for communities the size of Dixon, now increased to several thousand people because of the new legislation. Dixon citizens voted to approve the tax obligation in 1911 and began to investigate possible building sites.

Oscar Schultze, a well-to-do merchant and Dixon landowner, possessed valuable property in the center of town with his wife, Caroline. The area where they owned several lots was known as the Ross addition to Dicksonville. The Schultzes donated a plot of land so that the run-down center of town could be cleared of blight and designated for use as a civic park. Since Mrs. Schultze was active in the DWIC, the ownership and management of the park would be given to the club. The women organized a group of volunteers, mostly husbands of the club members, to clean and prepare the future park. They managed to keep the park maintained with their fundraising efforts until 1932 when they turned it over to the City of Dixon.

As the correspondence to Mr. Bertram began in earnest, Caroline Schultz offered an additional portion of land that would provide the building site for the Carnegie Library in perpetuity. The deed was properly signed and recorded in the Solano County Recorder's office on July 1, 1912. The recorded amount of exchange for the lot was \$10 in gold coins. Now that a site for a library had been procured with proof of deed to present to James Bertram, Mrs. R.J. Curry then president of

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Section number 8 Page 6

Statement of Significance (continued)

the DWIC, wrote a letter of appeal to Mr. Carnegie requesting a \$15,000 grant. Several architectural firms had already been consulted to determine the amount needed to build the desired design. The money was denied since it was arguable if the taxpayers could afford to meet the grant requirements for that amount. A grant for \$10,000 was however, awarded. The building design was further reviewed and the lowest winning bid went to Parker and Kenyon of San Francisco. The architects were required to plan a building that would fit the parameters of both the awarded grant and the design considerations stipulated by Bertram. He favored the one-story above raised basement configuration for its practicality. He reasoned that the large open room of the main floor would allow the supervisory duties of one librarian to be more efficiently managed. With a raised basement, the windows would allow natural light to enter from all sides providing a workable full basement level. The plans were drawn and submitted for review but when the design was sent to Mr. Bertram for approval, the architects had to modify and make substitutions of materials in order for the building to be completed within the promised \$10,000 grant. Parker and Kenyon had designed the cornices to be made of iron and the interior was to have milled crown molding at the ceilings. Since the metal and fancy trim components drove up the costs, they were forced to use wood for the cornice and completely leave off interior decorative elements. After lengthy negotiation, the contracting firm of Brady and Fischer proposed the lowest bid for their services: \$9,395 payable in gold coins.

Construction of the building then commenced and was completed in 1912. Delighted town citizens enjoyed the anticipated celebration in February of 1913 to officially dedicate the Dixon Carnegie Library. The Women's Improvement Club organized the evening's festivities. Prominent men from Sacramento were invited to be present and give addresses but only one, a Mr. Ed. Leeke, was able to attend. Mr. Leeke then made "a very pleasing address" and complimented the good work done by Women's Clubs in Dixon and elsewhere and of the "splendid progressive spirit that now prevails." Rev. W.E. Story, Rev. G. Derby, Mrs. R.J. Curry, Mrs. W.H. Garnett, E.D. Lebe and W.J. Weyand also gave speeches. Entertainment was provided by the Dixon Band who "contributed to the pleasure of the evening with several fine selections." A plaque with the names of the library district's first Board of Trustees and Mrs. O.C. Schultz was presented to commemorate the dedication day.

The Dixon Historical Society (DHS) initiated a survey of the old residential and commercial districts of the city to evaluate the possibility of National Register eligibility in 1979. A historic resources inventory was partially completed by the Vacaville Inventory organization. Through the years many of the surveyed buildings had undergone major changes to their original architecture and the goal of pursuing a registered historical district was abandoned.

Dr. Verl Knight, a local dentist and member of the Library Board, was passionate about keeping the Carnegie from deteriorating. Flyers were handed out through town that declared, "Save the Library!" Dr. Knight was instrumental in proposing the 1987 bond measure that would raise the funds to pay for complete restoration of the Carnegie. He envisioned making the whole building as beautiful as when first built. The funds would be utilized for interior/exterior renovation, wheelchair accessible ramps at the entrance and to make the basement again usable for the public. He apparently didn't have enough support for his idea because eventually much of the bond funds were used to build a new addition rather than spend it on restoration of the Carnegie.

The Dixon Unified School District Board of Education and the Dixon Library Commission partnered and requested the Dixon City Council to formally acknowledge the 1912 Carnegie as a building of historical significance. J.Gerry Laird, Superintendent of Schools, submitted a packet containing copies of historical records and documents verifying the origination and the importance of the Carnegie to the City of Dixon. The building was officially designated to be historically significant by the City Council in 1988. This was one year prior to the completion of the 1989 addition to the building that created the new main entrance on First Street.

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Continuation Sheet

Carnegie Library
Name of Property
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Statement of Significance (continued)

Two years after the 1989 addition and 1990 renovations to the library were finished, a re-dedication ceremony was held April 25, 1992 in the original Carnegie building. All of the past librarians were honored beginning with the first one appointed in 1912, Mrs. Lillian Brey Hill.

The special guest speaker was David Schultze, the great-great grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar C. Schultze who donated the library building lot. He also happens to be the great-great grandson of Mrs. R.J. Currey who wrote the letter to Andrew Carnegie in 1911 on behalf of the Women's Improvement Club. He made a humorous speech involving stories of his family history and its vital ties to the history of Dixon and the Dixon Carnegie Library. At the end of his speech he unveiled a marble plaque with the names of the re-dedication committee: Verl Knight, J. Batchelor, W. O' Neill, J.G. Laird, Sister Lisa Siefert, P. deTar, N.A. Rotteveel, M. Lytle and Marilyn Costamagna, then librarian.

Citizens of Dixon remained dedicated to the cause of historic preservation and in 2003 a professional evaluator, Donald S. Napoli from Sacramento, conducted an intensive survey. A Primary Record is filed in the State of California Resources Agency stating that the Dixon Carnegie Library appears eligible for listing on the National Register.

The community continues to utilize the Dixon Carnegie Library in its original capacity and function as a free public library to the present day. It has been the main source for information and library services in the city since its first opening. The library's archive collection offers support on a regular basis to genealogists and other researchers who inquire about viewing the historic photographs and documents. Special events funded by the library, including the popular Summer Reading Program for children, serve as important social affairs for the City of Dixon. Several city events take place outdoors throughout the year in the adjacent Women's Improvement Club Park. The Dixon Chamber of Commerce and the Dixon Downtown Business Association both plan seasonal festivities that include the use of the library. The active volunteer group, Friends of the Library conducts their book sales at some of these special events; the income from "Friends" sales is donated to benefit the library. Today, the Dixon Carnegie Library functions not only to provide education, social and cultural development, it is a treasured historical resource in its own right for the people of Dixon, giving them a strengthening connection to their past accomplishments and commitment.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been Requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property _____

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>10</u>	<u>602910</u>	<u>4255860</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The original boundary of the property is a 65' x 60' lot fronting B Street midway between First and Second Streets on Lots 1, 2 and 3 of Block 4. The Solano County Assessor's Parcel Number is 115-081-050. The subsequent additions extend on to city land borrowed from the Women's Improvement Park. (See accompanying drawing.)

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Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

(see continuation sheets for accompanying parcel map and a description of the metes and bounds record from 1911.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan B. Werrin
organization Dixon Carnegie Library Preservation Society date May 31, 2010
street & number 300 East B Street telephone 707-678-2914
city or town Dixon state CA zip code 95620
e-mail _____

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property:

City or Vicinity:

County:

State: Photographer:

Date Photographed:

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of ____.

(see continuation sheets for photograph information)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Dixon Carnegie Library

Name of Property
Solano County, CA

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 9 Page 8

Bibliographical References

Nasaw, David. Andrew Carnegie. NY: Penguin Press, 2006.

Jones, Theodore. Carnegie Libraries Across America: A Public Legacy. NY: John Wiley & Sons, 1997.

Edge, Laura B. Andrew Carnegie: Industrial Philanthropist. Minneapolis: Lerner Publications Company, 2004.

Women's Improvement Club, comp. Images of America: Dixon. Charleston, Chicago, Portsmouth, San Francisco: Arcadia Publishing, 2005.

Dixon Tribune. Microfilm. 1912-1992.

"Carnegie for Metric System." Dixon Tribune. 31 January 1902.

"Rededication of Carnegie." Dixon Tribune. 29 April 1992.

Kenney, Ruth. "Measure pays off for old Dixon library." Neighbors [Dixon] 9 August 1988: pgs. 1+

Van Slyck, Abigail A. "Free To All: Carnegie Libraries and the Transformation of American Culture 1877-1917." Ph.D. dissertation, University of California at Berkeley, 1989.

Telephone Interview:

Wes O'Neill, former Dixon Library Commissioner. 29 May 2010. 11:30 a.m.

Grace O'Neill, Women's Improvement Club member since 1956. 29 May 2010. 1:00 p.m.

Websites Accessed:

"Carnegie libraries of California." Skehan, Pat and Bernie. 2009. Accessed 9 March, 14 April, 18 May 2010. <<http://www.carnegie-libraries.org>>

"History of Andrew Carnegie and Carnegie Libraries." Walsh, Glenn A. 20 May 2010. 12, 26 May 2010. <<http://www.andrewcarnegie.cc>>

"A History of Dixon's Library." 3 May 2010. <<http://www.dixonlibrary.com>>

"Preservation Nation." National Park Service, U.S. Dept. of the Interior. 8 May 2009. 10 April 2010. 12, 18 May 2010. <<http://www.nps.gov>>

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Dixon Carnegie Library
Name of Property Solano County, CA
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 10 Page 9

Verbal Boundary Description

The Solano County Assessor/Recorder's department documents the negotiation between Mrs. Caroline Schultze and the Dixon Union High School Library District and notarized by R.J. Currey on May 27, 1912. The official description of the donated lot is described in detail:

Part of Lots One, Two and Three of the West half of Block Four in Ross' Addition to Dicksonville, according to the map of said Addition filed in the office of the Recorder of Solano County, California, in Book One of Maps, at page thirty-two;

Beginning at the South-east corner of said Lot One, being 150 feet West of the South-east corner of said Block Four, thence along the East line of said Lots One, Two and Three of said West half of Block Four, North Sixty-five feet, thence parallel with B Street West Sixty feet, thence parallel with the East line of said Lots One, Two and Three, South Sixty-five feet, and thence along the North line of B Street East Sixty feet to the place of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The accompanying Solano County Assessor's parcel maps for the City of Dixon illustrates the site area: Book 15-Page 8. Also see detail of parcel on accompanying map: Block 4 Ross Addition to Dixon.

Carnegie Library
Name of Property

Solano CA
County and State

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Dixon Library Commission and Dixon Library Trustees
street & number 230 North 1st Street telephone _____
city or town Dixon state CA zip code 95620

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

[Faint circular stamp with text: "NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES" and "DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR"]

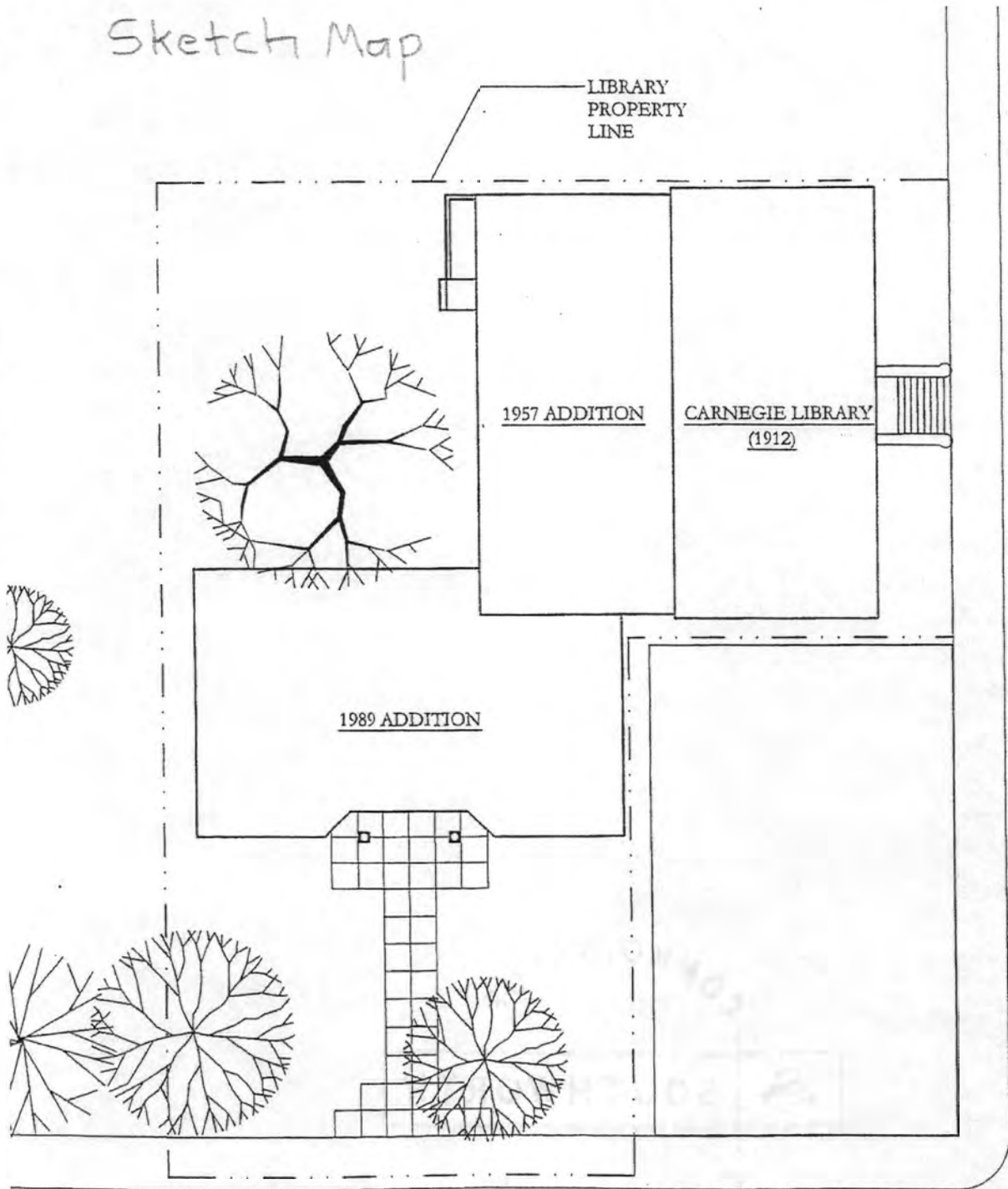
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Carnegie Library
Name of Property
Solano, CA
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Sketch Map



First Street

0 10' 20'



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Carnegie Library
Name of Property Solano, CA
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Additional Documentation
Photographs

Name of Property:	Carnegie Library
City:	Dixon
County:	Solano
Photographer:	Susan B. Werrin
Date Photographed: (1-18)	April, May 2010
Historical Photos: (19-25)	Photographer and Dates Unknown

Descriptions of Photos: (1-25)

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0001

Front facade south elevation, camera facing north

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0002

Detail entrance, camera facing north

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0003

Front view showing placement of quatrefoil windows, camera facing northwest

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0004

South elevation front three-part window, camera facing north

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0005

Southwest corner (at adjacent old P.O. building) looking up to cornice, camera facing north

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0006

Looking down to basement door under front steps, camera facing east

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0007

Date of building completion inscribed on southwest corner of building, camera facing north

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0008

Plaque at right of main entrance southeast front of building, camera facing north

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0009

East elevation showing 1957 shed-roof addition, camera facing northwest

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0010

Looking up to northeast cornice with roof line of shed-roof, camera facing southwest

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Carnegie Library

Name of Property
Solano, CA

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Historical Photographs: *Courtesy of the Dixon Public Library Archives Collection*
Photographer and dates unknown

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0019
Dixon Women's Improvement Club on Carnegie steps, circa 1920

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0020
Interior view with librarians, circa 1915

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0021
South wall facade front

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0022
Southeast corner front

CA_SolanoCounty_CarnegieLibrary_0023
Front of building showing globe-lamps at entrance, circa 1930's

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section _____ Page _____

=====

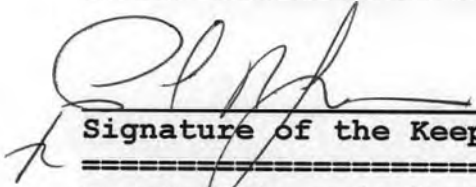
SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 10001199 Date Listed: 2/4/2011

Dixon Carnegie Library Solano CA
Property Name County State

California Carnegie Libraries MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper

2/4/2011

Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Classification:

The Related Multiple Property Listing box should read: *California Carnegie Libraries*
[While the current nomination is sufficiently documented to stand alone, it is greatly strengthened by inclusion as part of the 1990 Carnegie Library MPS and its well defined historic context and registration requirements.]

Significance:

The period of significance is revised to read: *1912-1921*.
[As noted in the California Carnegie Library MPS the most significant period of local library development in the state corresponded to years of the Carnegie program, which were effectively curtailed by World War I. By 1921 the initial era of significant library construction in small and large communities across the state, like Dixon, was substantially completed. The Dixon Library continued to function as an important local institution well after the period outlined, but it's initial association with early community building activities and the Carnegie program were defined by these early years.

Geographical Data:

The correct acreage should read: *less than one acre*.

These clarifications were confirmed with the CA SHPO office.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Dixon Carnegie Library

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: CALIFORNIA, Solano

DATE RECEIVED: 12/20/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/20/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/04/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/04/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10001199

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Dixon Carnegie Library is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Education and Social History. Completed in 1912, the handsome, Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival library served as an important symbol of the City of Dixon's commitment to education during the early twentieth century. Developed in association with Andrew Carnegie's philanthropic programs, the library served as an important focal point for local educational, cultural and social activities in the growing community. The property fully meets the registration requirements set out in the 1990 California Carnegie Library MPS.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criterion A

REVIEWER Paul R. Lusignea DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 2/4/2011

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



CARNEGIE LIBRARY

CARNEGIE LIBRARY





CARNEGIE LIBRARY

PLATE 1
CARNegie LIBRARY
BUILT BY THE
CARNegie FOUNDATION
FOR THE CITY OF
PITTSBURGH
1901







A.D. 1912

DIXON CARNEGIE LIBRARY
REDEDICATION
1992

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JACK M. BATCHELOR, JR., PRESIDENT
WES O'NEILL, VICE-PRESIDENT
PATTY DETAR, CLERK
NEAL A. ROTTEVEEL
SISTER LISA SEIFERT

J. GERRY LAIRD, ED. D., SUPERINTENDENT
MARK L. LYTLE, PROJECT DIRECTOR

MARILYN COSTAMAGNA, DISTRICT LIBRARIAN

PLAQUE DONATED BY
THE DIXON WOMEN'S IMPROVEMENT CLUB





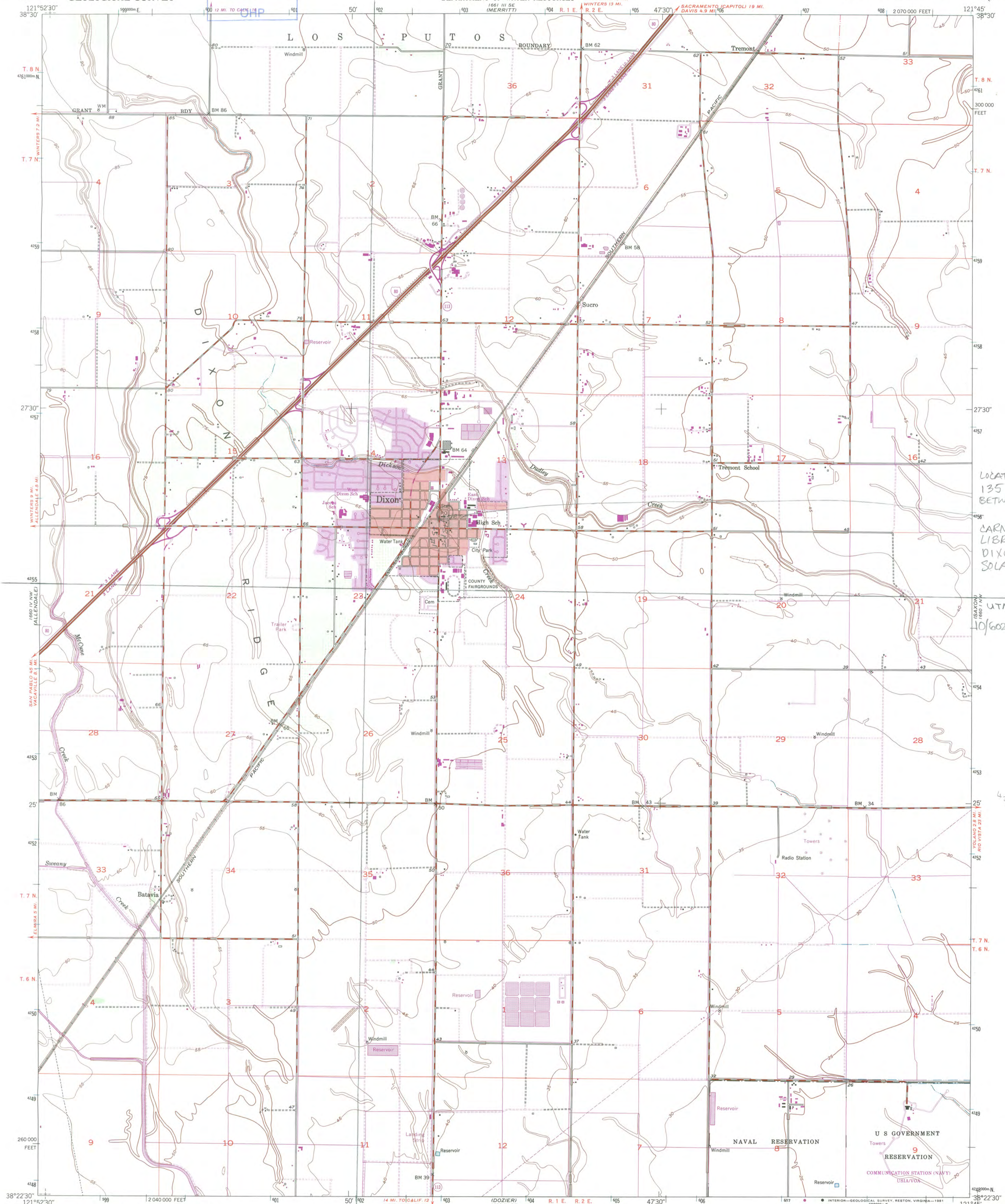












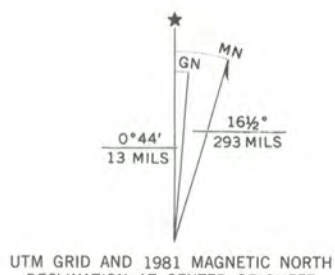
LOCATED -
135 EAST B ST,
BETWEEN 1ST & 2ND
STS.
CARNEGIE
LIBRARY
DIXON, CA
SOLANO CO.

UTM Reference
10/602910/425860

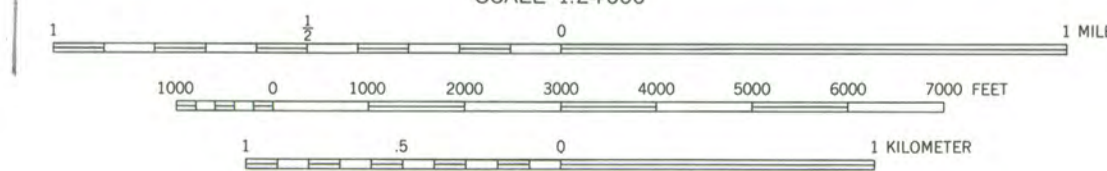
960
4259710

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Mapped 1906; remapped 1952
Culture and drainage from photo-mosaic by USBR
Aerial photographs taken 1949
Topography from planetable surveys by USGS 1952
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on California coordinate system, zone 2. 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 10, shown in blue. 1927 North American Datum. To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 15 meters north and 93 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks.
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map



SCALE 1:24000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

○ Interstate Route ○ U. S. Route ○ State Route

DIXON, CALIF.

N3822.5-W12145/7.5

1952
PHOTO REVISSED 1981
DMA 1660 IV NE-SERIES V685

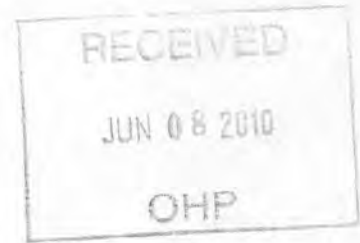
Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled from aerial photographs taken 1978 and other source data
This information not field checked. Map edited 1981
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

Dixon Carnegie Library Preservation Society

300 East B Street • Dixon, CA 95620

June 4, 2010

California State Office of Preservation
1416 Ninth Street Room 1442
Sacramento, CA 94296



Attention: Jay Correia

Dear Mr. Correia,

We are presenting to you a nomination for the National Register for the Dixon Carnegie Library. It must first be explained that there is a certain degree of urgency in requesting your review. The Dixon Public Library District is a California Special District and is governed by the authority of the district's Board of Trustees. For the past several years the district has made several attempts to procure a new library facility. When the opportunity arose to acquire properties on the same block as the existing library, the district chose to make the purchases. This was accomplished in November 2008. Since then, the plans for a new facility have been steadily moving forward. Unfortunately, the district's preference is to completely level the existing buildings including the Carnegie.

Several members of the community have been working to preserve and protect the Carnegie building from demolition. It is our intent that should the Dixon Carnegie be considered eligible for listing on the National Register it will cause the library district's governing board to pause and realize the importance of this historical resource to our community. The district's attorneys are preparing to implement a bond to raise money for the construction costs of the proposed new library. This is planned to go to the voters in May or June 2011.

Included in the nomination packet are historical photographs and copies of letters documenting the process of obtaining the Carnegie Library for the City of Dixon.

The Carnegie Libraries of California have previously been established as significant historical resources. They were nominated and approved for the National Register in 1990. Whether or not they still exist, they have been instrumental in contributing to the social and cultural development of communities throughout the nation. We hope that with your approval the Dixon Carnegie will be added to the National Registry list as well.

Sincerely yours,

Susan Broadhurst Werrin

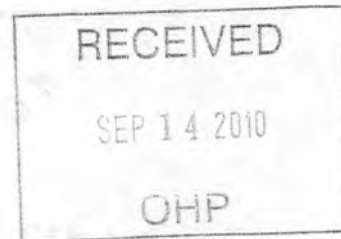
DIXON CARNEGIE LIBRARY PRESERVATION SOCIETY



300 EAST B STREET • DIXON, CALIFORNIA 95620

September 13, 2010

Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001



Attn: Office of Historic Preservation
Mr. Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer

Dear Mr. Donaldson,

Thank you for considering the nomination of the Dixon Carnegie Library at your next scheduled meeting on November 5, 2010. I am very pleased that the Office of Historic Preservation has decided to add discussion and action items regarding the Carnegie building on the official meeting agenda. The Dixon Carnegie is perhaps the only remaining non-residential building of any historical significance left standing in Dixon. In my opinion, the community should have recognized the importance of listing the building on the National Register a long time ago.

Our Preservation Society is working hard to collect signatures, write letters to newspapers, etc. to prove that there is community support for keeping our Carnegie on its original building site and restored according to preservation standards. It is definitely a continuing battle, though a worthwhile one. We do thank you for the important work your office is doing on behalf of California citizens who wish to maintain historic resources throughout our state. I look forward to attending the November meeting for the State Historical Resources Commission.

Sincerely,


Susan B. Werrin

State Historic Preservation Officer
Milford Wayne Donaldson, AIA
California State Office of Historical Preservation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

A library in any city that can show that is able to keep up the building makes the United States unique in the World simply by the number of free libraries that were built with funds from Andrew Carnegie.

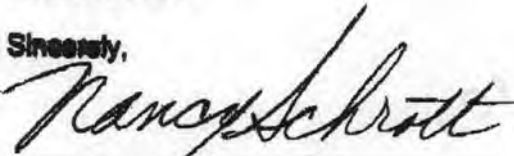
The Dixon Women's Improvement Club did show that Dixon was able to sustain a public library. In the early nineteenth century the Club contacted Mr. Carnegie, through James Bertram, met all the requirements for a Carnegie Library and accomplished their goal. The Dixon Women's Improvement Club is still in existence, and the Dixon Carnegie Library still stands, as a Library, and still serves the people of Dixon. The Library building is a beautiful Mission Revival style building that sits grandly among other buildings in Dixon and has been "modernized," with their original facades covered and the buildings expanded to the sidewalk. Let us not allow this to happen to the Dixon Carnegie Library.

The architects' plan is to slice the building in half like a sub bun, move the top half around the corner and drop it at the sidewalk. Then it is no longer a Carnegie Library. It is just another "modernized" facade at the sidewalk in Dixon.

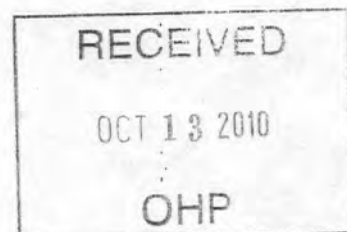
The Dixon Women's Improvement Club would be honored by having the Dixon Public Library included in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Dixon Carnegie Library is architecturally sound. It serves the people of Dixon as a Public Library. The Dixon Public Library should be honored by inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,



Nancy Schrott, retired Public Librarian and
2010-2011 President of Dixon Women's Improvement Club





OLD TOWN NEIGHBORS
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

RECEIVED
OCT 26 2010
OHP

October 25, 2010

160 East Broadway
Dixon, CA 95620

State Historic Preservation Officer
Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
California State Office of Historic Preservation
1725 23rd Street Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816

Dear Mr. Donaldson,

As residents of the "old downtown" district in the City of Dixon, we heartily support the nomination of the Dixon Carnegie Library to the National Registry of Historic Places. Inclusion on the National Register would be an honor to receive. The Library has helped to provide important contributions to Dixon's cultural heritage as the first free public library in the area.

Centrally located in the original residential neighborhood of Dixon, the Carnegie has served the community as a functioning library since 1912. It has been since its dedication in 1913, an integral part of the surrounding neighborhood's historical roots. Some of the same people who were instrumental in obtaining the Carnegie grant for Dixon's library once lived in the adjacent historic homes. To some extent, recognition of the Dixon Carnegie Library's significance helps to acknowledge the historic setting of the contiguous neighborhood as well.

We appreciate this opportunity and your consideration. We believe that the Dixon Carnegie has contributed, and will continue to contribute, to the social and cultural fabric of our community. Thank you for your dedicated efforts in determining the Carnegie Library's eligibility for the Register.

Sincerely,

Susan B. Wein *Hinger Emerson* *Martha Pearson*
W & A H E *Barbara M Jew* *Sandra Blair*

Representing the "Old Town Neighbors"

Robert Emerson
Arthur Jones

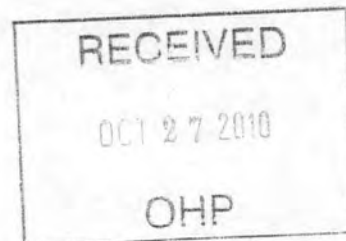


DIXON WOMEN'S IMPROVEMENT CLUB

Post Office Box 25, Dixon, CA 95620

October 26, 2010

State Historic Preservation Officer
Milford Wayne Donaldson, AIA
California State Office of Historical Preservation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816



Dear Mr. Donaldson:

In the early 1900's the Dixon Women's Improvement Club, and especially one member, Mrs. Schultze, donated land on East B Street for the construction of one of the most important buildings for the City of Dixon. The club contacted Andrew Carnegie for a contribution of funds so that Dixon might have a library. The new Mission Revival-style library building was dedicated in Dixon in 1913.

Today, the 76 members of the 2010 Dixon Women's Improvement Club are proud of their contribution to Dixon in the early 1900's and would be very honored to have that contribution, the Dixon Carnegie Library building, named to the National Register of Historic places.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Connie Sewell

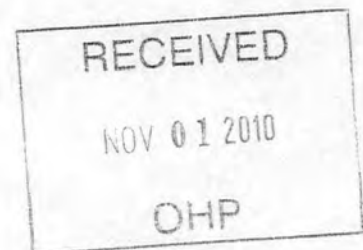
Connie Sewell, Corresponding Secretary
Dixon Women's Improvement Club

Dear Milford Wayne Donaldson,

I support the prospects of adding the Dixon Carnegie Library to the National Register. Being a teen I find preserving the Dixon Carnegie Library to be a great importance to me. I have spent my existence breathing, sleeping, working and living in Dixon and if I have learned one thing about Dixon it has been that history roams our streets. The Dixon Carnegie Library is a part of developing the history I experience everyday because it provides culture, memories, stories and art to my life style. When the Dixon Carnegie Library is at risk in losing its origins I am too at risk. Without a place like the Dixon Carnegie Library I wouldn't have the opportunity to live the life style I am thankful to have today. I may be recognized as only a teen but I have spent 19 years in Dixon and I have come to conclusions that the Dixon Carnegie Library is a necessity to add to the National Register. Too many small towns like my own have been unfortunately slipping away in culture, memories, stories and art. I do not want this course of action to trickle into Dixon. If the Dixon Carnegie Library is on the National Register it saves history, our town's culture and my life style. I appreciate your time and consideration on the matter.

Sincerely,

Heather K. Le Bleu



**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

1725 23rd Street Suite 100
SACRAMENTO, CA 94296-0001
(916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053
calshpo@ohp.parks.ca.gov



December 15, 2010

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service 2280
1201 I (Eye) Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005



Subject: **Dixon Carnegie Library National Register of Historic Places Nomination**

Dear Ms. Shull: *Carol*

Enclosed please find the **Dixon Carnegie Library** nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The Library is being nominated to the National Register by the Dixon Carnegie Library Preservation Society.

On November 5, 2010 the California Historical Resources Commission unanimously found the Dixon Carnegie Library eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for the significant role it has played in the educational, social, and cultural development of Dixon and the surrounding community. Staff visited the Library on October 13, 2010 and found that the building retains sufficient integrity to convey its historical significance.

If you have any questions regarding this nomination, please contact Jay Correia of my staff at 916-445-7008 or jcorr@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Wayne
Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer
Enclosures

**Dixon Carnegie Library
Dixon, Solano County
Staff Report**

The 1912 Dixon Carnegie Library is nominated to the National Register under Criterion A: Events, for the significant role the library has played in the educational, cultural, and social development of the eastern Solano County town of Dixon. Constructed when Dixon's population was only 1000 persons, the library speaks to the aspirations and the forward-thinking of the town's early leaders. The Dixon Carnegie library has been the main source for information and library services in Dixon for ninety-eight years.

Initially, Andrew Carnegie and his private secretary James Bertram denied the citizens of Dixon their 1905 request for a library grant. Carnegie required that cities contribute to the cost of constructing their library, and Dixon's small size would not allow it to meet this stipulation. As a result, local resident and State Assemblyman J.H. Peterson succeeded in passing legislation that made it possible to form a combined library and school district in California and enabled the formation of the 196 square-mile Dixon High School District Library District of Solano County, the first high-school library district in the state. Dixon received its Carnegie library grant in 1912.

The Dixon Carnegie Library is an approximately 2300 square-foot rectilinear building designed in the Classical Revival Style. Staff visited the library on October 13, 2010. Several additions to the library have occurred. A 1958 lean-to structure, appended to the rear of the building, is nearly invisible from the street view. A 1990 addition is appended to the 1958 structure, and does not detract from the historic library in any way. Basement windows were plastered-over and the building was re-stuccoed in 1990. Despite these changes, multiple character-defining elements including the dentiled projecting cornice, windows with original framing separated by engaged ionic columns, plaster scone ornaments, and quatrefoil windows, allow the library to retain integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and association, and a significant balance of integrity of materials and workmanship. The library continues to present a formal appearance in downtown Dixon. The applicant is the Dixon Carnegie Preservation Society. OHP has received five letters of support for the nomination.

Staff recommends the State Historical Resources Commission determine that the Dixon Carnegie Library meets National Register Criterion A for its association with the significant role it has played in the educational, cultural, and social development of Dixon and the surrounding community. Staff further recommends the State Historic Preservation officer approve the nomination for forwarding to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register.

Jay Correia
State Historian III
November 3, 2010



Nancy Schrott
<nschrott@gmail.com>

01/11/2011 12:05 PM

To Edson_Beall@nps.gov

cc

bcc

Subject Dixon Carnegie Library

Sir,

As a retired Librarian who had the privilege of working in two different Carnegie Library buildings I am passionate about preservation of the Carnegie buildings that are still in existence, and especially those that are still working Public Libraries. I grew up in Johnstown, PA where, as you know Andrew Carnegie is a part of the history. Without him, there would not be these beautiful Public Library buildings we are trying to preserve. I retired in 2009 from the Dixon Public Library, where my office was in the old Carnegie, right where the original circulation desk sat. What a thrill for a kid from Johnstown, who is also a Librarian. I am hoping that the Dixon Carnegie Library will be named to the National Register of Historic Places for its personal history, as well as its history in the Carnegie story. Both are now part of my own story.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nancy C Schrott, MLS
5447 Midway Rd
Vacaville, CA 95688
707-678-4320