

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

DEC 11 1992

NATIONAL
REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Turlock Carnegie Library _____

other name/site number: Carnegie Center for the Arts and Crafts _____

2. Location

street & number: 250 N. Broadway _____

not for publication: NA_

city/town: Turlock _____

vicinity: _

state: CA county: Stanislaus _____ code: 099 zip code: 95380

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: public-local _____

Category of Property: Building _____

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
__1__	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
__1__	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: __0__

Name of related multiple property listing: California's Carnegie Libraries

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. See continuation sheet.

Stadler R. Craigo Signature of certifying official 12/8/92 Date

California Office of Historic Preservation State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

- entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain):

Alonzo Byer 1/3/93

ja Signature of Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: Education Sub: Library

Current : Recreation/Culture Sub: Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Classical Revival

Other Description:

Materials: foundation concrete roof asphalt
walls brick other

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: LOCALLY

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) :

Areas of Significance: Architecture
Social History

Period(s) of Significance: 1916-1942

Significant Dates :

Significant Person(s):

Cultural Affiliation:

Architect/Builder: Davis, H.Y., Architect
McGregor and Knapp, Builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. X See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

X See continuation sheet.

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:

- x State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>10</u>	<u>690 150</u>	<u>4151 780</u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: Assessor's Parcel #61-11-46, Block 320 City of Turlock

Boundary Justification: This is the city lot historically associated with the property.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: M. Ciriscioli, Development Coordinator _____

Organization: Turlock City Arts Commission _____ Date: 5/25/92 _____

Street & Number: 900 N. Palm _____ Telephone: (209) 668-5698 _____

City or Town: Turlock _____ State: CA ZIP: 95315 _____

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Turlock Carnegie Library _____ Page 5
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This Carnegie building is one story over a raised basement. It sits on a tree-shaded lot, two blocks from downtown, and at the beginning of a residential neighborhood of predominantly Craftsman bungalows. The library is an example of Classical Revival in which the projecting central element does not break the roof line. In this case, Spanish influences are incorporated and the building is characterized by its outstanding brick craftsmanship. Extended eaves of the low pyramid shingle roof are supported by carved brackets. The entrance is wide, under a very tall round arched transom framed in tapered, radiating brick, and is flanked by small narrow windows on each side. Beyond the entrance is a very deep vestibule and further steps up to the first floor. Windows on either side of the entrance are triplet, under semi-circular transoms also framed in tapered radiating brick, a taller and wider window in the center.

This triplet treatment is repeated in windows all around the building. Just below the windows, the brick is used to create a series of narrow bands surrounding the building, with basement windows recessed within the bands. The site is raised behind a low retaining wall. Three steps lead from the sidewalk and another flight of stairs, flanked by a wide, curved solid brick rail, rises to the entrance. Pipe handrails on both sets of stairs appear to be the only additions to the building, and its integrity has been preserved. The interior is equally well-maintained.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Turlock Carnegie Library _____ Page 6
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The Turlock Carnegie Library building meets the requirements for National Register listing as set forth in the multiple property nomination entitled "California's Carnegie Libraries." Turlock's library was the first and most expensive of the five Carnegie libraries built in Stanislaus County. All are still standing, although none is used as a library today. The Turlock Carnegie is one of the town's most impressive buildings. It was the first permanent library building in Turlock, and served during the years 1916 to 1968 as the only library in town.

Turlock's library history dates from a 1907 Women's Improvement Club project, just one year after the club itself was organized, and a year prior to the town's incorporation. The club opened a reading room as an evening alternative to saloons for men who were without families in the growing railroad town. The women kept the room open from 3:00 to 9:00 pm, and subscribed to newspapers from Oakland, San Francisco and Los Angeles as well as all of the major valley cities.

In 1910 the city assumed responsibility for the library, but it continued in the temporary quarters. In 1914 the women organized the Greater Turlock Civic Club to petition for Carnegie funding. A \$10,000 grant was received June 1, 1915, and the women donated a lot, valued at \$1,950. The building, designed by Hugh Y. Davis of Bowen and Davis, Fresno, opened August 31, 1916.

After the formation of the county system in Stanislaus, Turlock maintained a tenuous relationship with the county library. Areas of friction included professional training for librarians, cataloging systems, book selection, purchasing procedures, the city's right to keep the donations given by Turlock residents, building maintenance, and days off for local festivities. Despite problems, however, the library fulfilled its all-important function until the 1960s. A new library for Turlock was under discussion during 1965 and 1966. Ground was broken in January 1968 and the new building opened in November. The Carnegie building has most recently served as an arts and crafts center.

The two areas of significance established for the Carnegie libraries in the related multiple property nomination were architecture, and social history. The latter was for the role played by the institutions in the history of philanthropy.