Topeka

city, town

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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For NPS use only

JUN 25 1987

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections Name historic Anderson (Carnegie) Memorial Library and or common Same Location The Way College of Emporia, 1300 West 12th Avenue street & number _ not for publication Emporia city, town _ vicinity of Kansas 20 Lyon 111 code county state code Classification Category **Ownership Status Present Use** X occupied _ district _ public __ agriculture _ museum _X private \underline{X} building(s) __ unoccupied _ commercial park $rac{\mathrm{X}}{\mathrm{A}}$ educational __ structure both _ work in progress private residence **Public Acquisition Accessible** _ entertainment religious site N/Ain process X_ yes: restricted government scientific __ object N/Abeing considered ____ yes: unrestricted _ industrial transportation 'nο military _ other: Owner of Property The Way College of Emporia name 1300 West 12th Avenue street & number Emporia Kansas 66801 vicinity of city, town **Location of Legal Description** courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds street & number Lyon County Courthosue state Kansas 66801 city, town Representation in Existing Surveys title Kansas State Historical Society has this property been determined eligible? $_$ yes $_X$ no date 1969 federal X state ___ county ___ local depository for survey records Kansas State Historical Society, 120 West 10th Street

7. Description Condition X excellent good fair unexposed Check one X original site moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Anderson (Carnegie) Memorial Library (c. 1902) is located on The Way College of Emporia, Emporia, Lyon County, Kansas (pop. 25,287). The one and two-story, rusticated limestone block, Neo-Classical building stands near the center of the campus. Its facade orientation is south. The building measures approximately ninety-four feet from east to west and sixty-nine feet from north to south. The building retains its original function as a library.

The one and two-story, rusticated limestone block building sits on a raised foundation. Two, one-story, gable units flank a center, two-story, domed unit. A one-story, pedimented pavilion projects from the facade's center bay and a one-story, gable roofed unit projects from the rear elevation's center bay. Three bays comprise the building's facade and rear, it is two bays deep. A combelled, rusticated limestone block chimney projects from the northern elevation's gable roofed unit.

The two-story, center core's dome is roofed with copper shingles, the core's second level roof is covered with standing seam copper. These two treatments replicate the original roof treatment and were installed in the late 1970s and early 1980s, replacing deteriorated copper. The one-story units which project from the core and the pedimented pavilion are roofed with asphalt shingles dating from the 1930s. It is speculated that the original roof treatment on these wings and the pediment was standing seam copper.

The two-story core is surmounted by a gently rounded dome with a pointed top. A Classical wooden entablature ornaments the dome, 1/1 double hung windows separated by single Ionic columnettes pierce the dome's wooden body. The second level of the core is ornamented with a wooden Classical entablature. Large copper flowerettes ornament the second level's four corners. Elliptical rusticated limestone window surrounds with keystones form the fenestration in the two outer corners of the second level's south, east, and west elevations. Most of the elliptical windows are stained glass. A single, 1/1 double hung window with a stained glass transom pierces the outer corner of the northern elevation's second level. The two-story core holds the first level landing area and the second level lounge and offices.

The projecting, pedimented pavilion contains a recessed, transomed, double wooden door flanked by two-fixed windows in the recession's angle. A centered pair of limestone, Ionic columns and the rusticated limestone outer walls support the wooden Classical tympanum and the wooden Classical entablature which underscores it. Limestone Ionic half columns project from the pavilion's outer walls into the recessed doorway space. The name "Anderson Memorial" is attached to the entablature's frieze. A bronze plaque commemorating Carnegie dating from the time of the building's construction is attached to the east of the doorway. An elliptical rusticated limestone window surround with a keystone pierces the east and west walls of the pavilion. Stone steps lead up to the building.

The east and west gable roofed, one bay wings which project from the center core pick up the wooden, Classical entablature which ornaments the pavilion. Classically carved wooden tympanums similar to the pavilion's ornament the gable ends of these units. Five

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fixed windows with stained glass transoms comprise the first level fenestration of the wing's north and south elevations. Four fixed windows with stained glass transoms pierce each gable end. This fenestration results from the 1970s and 1980s restoration of the library, when the original 1/1 double hung windows were replaced with the fixed windows. The stained glass transoms are original although they were cut down slightly to fit the new fixed windows. Three above grade windows pierce the foundation walls of the wing's north and south elevations. Four above grade windows pierce the foundation walls of the gable ends. These wings hold the library's first level reading rooms.

The rear wing holds the stacks. It is spaced slightly away from the main building. A plain wooden entablature ornaments the wing's east and west elevations. Five fixed windows pierce the wing's east and west elevations, four above grade windows pierce the foundation walls on these sides. A basement entry pierces the northeastern corner of the northern elevation.

The interior of the library maintains its original three-bay floor plan with a vestibule entrance. Barrel vaults resting on Ionic columns define the first level's central space. Pressed tin ceilings ornament the east and west reading rooms. Pressed tin also ornaments the second floor ceiling. The building's original wooden doors, door and window surrounds, staircases, shelves, pillars are retained for the most part; several new doors and counters were created to match existing features in the 1970s and 1980s restoration. The basement was gutted and redone in pine during this period. The building retains its original light fixtures on the first and second levels, as well as its original stained glass transoms and elliptical lights.

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nominated libraries maintain a high to moderate degree of architectural and structural integrity.

Industrialist Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919) and the Carnegie Corporation significantly influenced the development and expansion of public library systems worldwide. Between 1886 and 1921 Carnegie funds assisted in the construction of 1,681 city and 108 college libraries in the United States. As a region, the Mid-West, Kansas included, did not have a well established public library system until the Carnegie Program and ranks highest in the number of communities which obtained Carnegie Libraries nationwide. Out of the forty-six states to participate in the library building program, Kansas ranks approximately eleventh in the number of Carnegie Libraries built. For many Kansas communities, the Carnegie Library represented its first library building, providing an environment that all members of the community could share for the purposes of reading, learning, and education.

Eligibility for Carnegie Library funds rested on several factors. Firstly, the population of the community had to exceed 1,000; in Kansas this indicated at least a second class city status. This population requirement generally resulted in county seat communities applying for and receiving Carnegie Libraries. Some communities with populations less than 1,000 banded together with neighboring communities to achieve the 1,000 mark and applied for township libraries, as in the case of the Peabody and Canton Township libraries. In the case of college libraries this constraint may not have applied, although the four Kansas colleges to receive Carnegie libraries were located in cities which had populations in excess of 1,000 by 1900. Secondly, the applicant had to provide a site for the library. The sites tended to be one or two blocks outside of the community's main business district. Thirdly, the applicant had to provide an annual endowment for the maintenance and improvement of the library which amounted to at least ten percent of the initial grant from the Carnegie Corporation.

This last factor contributed to the ending of the Carnegie Library Building Program in 1917, although grants for books and other improvements continued for several more decades. An inherent problem for second class cities in Kansas was the .4 mill levy restriction for libraries, making it difficult for some communities to meet the annual ten percent maintenance appropriation solely through public dollars. In 1917 the Kansas State legislature increased the library levy to .5 mill for second and third class cities, an amendment which affected most of the communities in the State that had Carnegie Libraries. In 1916, large communities such as Topeka, Wichita, Hutchinson, and Leavenworth had library mill levies of 1.06, 1.2, 1.8, and 3.5 respectively. In Kansas, the average public library grant was \$12,000 and the average college library grant was \$37,000. These monies covered the cost of the building, the necessary furniture and fixtures, and the architects' fees.

Prior to 1910, the Carnegie Corporation did not provide design guidelines for the libraries that it funded and because the library was a relatively new building type, few architects and/or builders had experience with its design. Many of the early libraries were expensive examples of the Beaux Arts style with little focus on floor plan and space

NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82) OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

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efficiency. In 1910, Carnegie's personal secretary James Bertram developed model specifications and floorplans for proposed libraries, entitling his work <u>Notes on Library Buildings</u>. The <u>Notes on Library Buildings</u> provided the first widely circulated guidelines for library design in this country.

Bertram wrote:

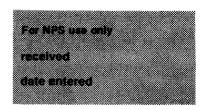
Small libraries should be pland (sic) so that one librarian can oversee the entire library from a central position.... The bilding (sic) should be devoted exclusively to: (main floor) housing of books and their issue for home use; comfortable accomodations for reading them by adults and children; (basement) lecture room; necessary accommodation for heating plant; also all conveniences for the library patrons and staff. Experience seems to sho (sic) that the best results for a small general library are obtained by adopting the one-story and basement rectangular type of bilding (sic), with a small vestibule entering into one large room sub-divided as required by means of bookcases.... The rear and side windows may be kept about six feet from the floor, to giv (sic) continuous wall space for shelving. A rear wing can be added for stack-room (when future need demands it) at a minimum expense, and without seriously interfering with the library servis (sic) during its construction. The site chosen should be such as to admit lite (sic) on all sides, and be large enuf (sic) to allow extension, if ever such should become necessary.

The thirty-six Carnegie Libraries built in Kansas after 1910 reflect Bertram's precedents, exhibiting high space utilization, and often including full basements, although the raised basement is a design element employed in the earlier libraries as well. Most of these one-story libraries exhibit a three bay, Neo-Classical facade with a projecting central pedimented entry pavilion and are one bay deep. The use of native limestone is evident in some of the libraries but the most common material combination is brick with a limestone foundation. While there is some tendency toward a vernacular interpretation to the design ornamentation of these libraries, the general approach verges on high style.

Correspondence between the Carnegie Corporation and the library boards from the Kansas communities that received Carnegie Libraries indicates that the designs for these libraries were carefully scrutinized by Bertram and in many cases, were resubmitted several times before meeting his requirements. Upon the completion of a library, the library board was instructed to send a full set of blueprints and elevations of the building to the Corporation. However, recent correspondence between the Kansas State Historical Society and the Carnegie Corporation reveals that the Corporation does not have blueprints of the Kansas libraries. The Corporation does have some library photographs but the collection is not inclusive.

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Three architects were particularly active in the design of Kansas Carnegie Libraries: George P. Washburn of Ottawa, Kansas designed nine, A. T. Simmons of Bloomington, Illinois designed six, and William Warren Rose of Kansas City, Kansas designed four. Washburn's libraries are primarily of the standard three-bay, Neo-Classical variety. His firm is credited with the Carnegie libraries in Burlington, Canton, Cherryvale, Columbus, Eureka, Halstead, Osawatomie, Ottawa, and Sterling. Simmons engaged in a more eclectic approach, designing libraries in Abilene, Chanute, Council Grove, Downs, Hays and Yates Center. Rose is credited with the classically inspired libraries in Argentine, Kansas City, Manhattan, and Newton. In Kansas, many Kansas based architects were commissioned to design Carnegie Libraries as well as architects from Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, and Texas.

Today, many of the state's Carnegie Libraries are facing serious space shortages. The alternatives of adding on or vacating both present preservation problems. Additions to these libraries must be such that the building's original character is not altered. Vacating the library for a larger facility leaves the problem of an empty building, in some communities county historical societies have inherited the empty Carnegie Library. In any event, when these buildings are no longer recognized from a design standpoint as Carnegie Libraries, their architectural significance ceases.

8. Significance

| Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 | Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce | community planning conservation economics | landscape architectur law literature military music philosophy | re religion science sculpture _X social/ humanitarian theater |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1800–1899 X 1900– | commerce communications | • | nt philosophy politics/government | theater transportation other (specify) |
| Specific dates | c.1902 | Builder/Architect Cha | urles W. Squires - Ar | chitect |

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Anderson (Carnegie) Memorial Library (c. 1902) is being nominated to the National Register as part of the Carnegie Libraries of Kansas thematic resources nomination (c. 1902-1921) at the local level of significance under criteria A and C for its historical association with the Carnegie Corporation Library Building Program and for its architectural significance as a new building type. The College of Emporia, now the Way College of Emporia, was founded in 1882. The college received their \$30,000.00 Carnegie Library grant in 1900, library construction was completed in 1902. The Anderson (Carnegie) Memorial Library is an example of the Neo-Classical style.

Sixty-three Carnegie funded libraries were built in Kansas during the first three decades of the Twentieth Century; four of these libraries were built on college campuses. In most cases, the Carnegie funded library represented the community's first library building although many Kansas communities had book clubs and library organizations well before the Carnegie Corporation Library Building Program was founded. In the case of the four college libraries, the building represented the first structure which was solely devoted to housing the institution's books and providing study space. Carnegie did not solicit interest in the program, with the exception of the Anderson (Carnegie) Memorial Library which was built by Carnegie as a memorial to his friend John Anderson and was the first college library nationally to receive Carnegie funding. Communities initiated contact with the corporation by letter, indicating their desire for a Carnegie funded library. If the Corporation responded favorably to the request, a firm local commitment to the program's requirements, which generally resulted in a public election in support of the library, followed. Obviously these actions represented a perceived need within the community for a library building and the Carnegie Corporation Library Building Program represented an excellent way to secure the funds to build one. Many of the Carnegie Libraries built in Kansas reflect the high space utilization design guidelines promoted by the Carnegie Corporation after 1910, underscoring the point that before the Carnegie Corporation Library Building Program, few architects and/or builders had experience designing this building type.

Twenty-eight Carnegie Libraries are included in this nomination (see inventory). Twelve Carnegie Libraries have been listed individually on the National Register: Argentine, Case Library (Baker University, Baldwin City), Caldwell, Dodge City, Emporia, Goodland, Lawrence, Leavenworth, Newton, Ottawa, Parsons, and Pittsburg. The Carnegie Library at Arkansas City is included in a downtown historic district. Thirteen Carnegie Libraries have been demolished: Great Bend, Halstead, Hays, Iola, Kansas City, McPherson, Morrison Library (Fairmont College, Wichita), Olathe, Osawatomie, Plainville, Russell, Salina, and Washington. Five Carnegie Libraries have been altered enough to make them ineligible for the National Register: Abilene, Garden City, Hiawatha, Lyons, and Stockton. (The nominations for the Concordia, Eureka, Independence, and Winfield libraries were deferred.) Twenty-two of the nominated libraries retain their original function. All of the buildings are in use or have an active use planned for them. The

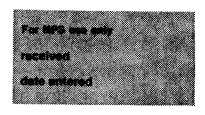
9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached sheet

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