

SURVEY-INVENTORY FORM
COMMUNITY CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

1. NAME

Historic

Seattle Public Library-Green Lake Branch

*(Carnegie Libraries of
W. Washington)*

and/or Common

Same

2. LOCATION

UTM References:

Zone 10 Easting 550610

Northing 5280930

Street & Number

7364 East Green Lake Drive, North

1:24 000

Seattle North

- not for publication

City, Town

Seattle

- vicinity of

State

Washington

County

King

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership:

public

private

both

Status:

occupied

unoccupied

work in progress

Present Use:

agriculture

commercial

educational

entertainment

government

industrial

military

museum

park

private residence

religious

scientific

transportation

other:

Library

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Name

City of Seattle

Street & Number

600 - 4th Avenue

City, Town

Seattle

- vicinity of

State

Washington 98104

5. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

6. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title

J.H. Vandermeer, Historian

Organization

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

Date

August 1981

Street & Number

111 West 21st Avenue

Telephone

(206) 753-9685

City or Town

Olympia

State

Washington 98504

7. DESCRIPTION

Condition: excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed
Circle one: unaltered altered
Circle one: original site moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance
attach photo

The Green Lake branch is located on a busy street that separates it from a small urban lake. Broad stairs lead to the main entrance centered on the SW facade. The building is one story with a daylight basement. It has a hip roof of tile shingles which features a skylight on the SW side. The surface treatment consists of smooth stucco with cast bas relief decorations. The most notable decorative feature is the metal-and-glass porch canopy and the metal grillwork transom above it.

Verbal boundary description: Lots 4, 5, 6 and 7,
Block 17, Woodlawn Addition

Acreage: Less than one

8. SIGNIFICANCE

Specific dates 1910

Builder/Architect Somervell & Cote

a. History

(A general history of the Seattle Public Library and its buildings follows the inventory form for the West Seattle Branch.)

A branch library in temporary quarters opened near Green Lake in 1905. To obtain a permanent building, local citizens conducted a fund raising campaign to purchase a site. Contributions of \$3,000 were matched by a \$1,000 appropriation by the Library Board to buy the present property. This cleared the way for construction of this building, which was paid for with \$35,000 provided by Andrew Carnegie. Designed by Somervell and Cote, the building opened in 1910 and has served the public continuously ever since.

b. Evaluation of Significance

This building is a well-preserved example of a Carnegie Library and has been an important focus of the intellectual and social life of the neighborhood it serves. A discussion of the libraries designed by Somervell and Cote is given on the inventory form for the West Seattle branch.