

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET Description ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 4

3. LIBRARY (now MEDIA CENTER).

VBD: Beginning at the intersection of the north-south half-section line of Section 20, Township 33 N, Range 48 W, with the corporation line of the City of Chadron, proceed south 400 feet, then west 600 feet, to this building.

UTM: E663320 N4742550.

Acreage: less than one.

Brick wall material; rectangular form with centered extension in front and rear; one story with raised basement; hipped tile roof with hipped extensions at front and rear; front entrance flanked by Doric columns and topped with a pediment; four nine-over-nine windows on each side of the entrance and seven such windows on the north and south ends; 1929; a new door has been installed; J. C. Stitt, Norfolk, architect.

The form and style of the Library reflect typical recommendations of professional librarians and the Carnegie Corporation in the first quarter of the 20th century. The one-story-with-raised basement form was recommended by the Carnegie Corporation as the most economical building shape, because two floors of useable space were possible without constructing a two-story building. It is interesting that this form was used in a college library, for the Carnegie Corporation had recommended a basement for a community meeting room and lecture space. A typical Carnegie library floorplan is represented here with one large reading room, a vestibule in the projecting center pavilion, and the bookstack and librarian's room in the rear projection. Most Carnegie libraries are noted for their minimal decorative details and for choosing a style simple in nature, such as Georgian or Neo-Classical Revival, where a few details are needed. The few classical details of the Chadron library reflect this mode: a simple stone cornice symmetrical facade, hipped tile roof, and columns and pediment surrounding the door.<sup>2</sup>

The building served as the library until 1966 when a new structure was built. It now houses the Media Center, where the print shop and educational television studios are located. The college administration has noted the appropriateness of using this building as a college museum, if funds are ever available.