United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

RECEIVED 2280 SEP **J 1990** NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1227

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 How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property	
historic name <u>Sisseton Carnegie Library</u>	
other names/site number Pohlen Center, Heritage Museum	of Roberts County
2. Location	
city or town <u>Sisseton</u>	_ not for publication vicinity
state <u>South Dakota</u> code <u>SD</u> county <u>Roberts</u>	code <u>109</u> zip code <u>57262</u>

3. 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide _x_ locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

a official

Date

09-16-96

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

4 National Park Service Certification I, hereby certify that this property is: 0 10.24.96 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): _ gnature of Keeper Date of Action 5. Classification Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) X private public-local public-State public-Federal Category of Property (Check only one box) X building(s) district site structure object Number of Resources within Property Contributing Noncontributing buildings sites structures objects Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) <u>n/a</u>

name of property Sisseton Carnegie Library county and state Roberts, SD 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Cat: <u>Education</u> Sub: <u>Library</u> Commercial Trade Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Cat: Commercial Sub: Photography Studio Art Gallery 7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) Neo-Classical _____ Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundation granite-brick roof <u>shingle</u> walls _____plaster/sheetrock/barnwood other concrete steps-oak, pine, hemlock windows

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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)

- X 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.
- X 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.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- _____B removed from its original location.
- ____ C a birthplace or a grave.
- ____ D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object,or structure.
- _____F a commemorative property.
- _____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture Community Planning

name of property Sisseton Carnegie Library	county and st	tate Roberts, SD
Significant Dates <u>1916</u>		
Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)	
Cultural Affiliation <u>N/A</u>		
Architect/Builder Carlson & Hasslen of Ortonville, MN		
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance continuation sheets.)	e of the propert	y on one or more
9. Major Bibliographical References		
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparin sheets.)		
Previous documentation on file (NPS) preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 6 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		

Name of repository: <u>South Dakota State Historical Society</u>, Pierre, SD

name of property Sisseton Carnegie Library		Roberts, SD
10. Geographical Data		
Acreage of Property <u>less than an acre</u>		
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a co	ontinuation sheet)	
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing 1 14 652140 5058447 3 2 4 USGS Map SIsseton See continuation sheet.		
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the pro	perty on a continuation s	heet.)
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected	on a continuation sheet.))

11. Form Pre	pared By	
name/title	Carol Ann Eleeson Hosmer	with technical assistance by the SHPO staff
organization		date March 1996
street & num	per_215 Oak Street East	telephone
city or town	Sisseton	state_SDzip code57262

	===================
Additional Documentation	

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete	e this item at the	request of the SHPO or FPO.)	
name	Car	ol Ann Eleeson Hosmer	
street	& number	215 Oak Street E	telephone
city or	town	Sisseton	state_SD_zip code 57262

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 roperties, 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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

name of property Sisseton Carnegie Library NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section <u>7</u> Page <u>1</u>

Physical Description:

The Sisseton Carnegie Library is located on Corner lots 22, 23, 24, Block 43, in the city of Sisseton, SD. The street address is 215 Oak St. East on the corner of 3rd Ave. East.

The exterior of the rectangular building is composed of brick and pink granite block foundation. The foundation and the brick are separated by a stone belt course. The hip roof features asphalt shingles and a brick chimney. The facade center entrance features brick pilasters holding up a cornice and a brick entablature with "Carnegie Library" carved into the stone. The original granite steps have been replaced with concrete. The entrance features double doors with side lights and a transom. On either side of the entrance are two lead glass three-over-one windows with stone sills. Below these are basement windows consisting of six lights. Both side elevations feature three small lead glass windows near the fascia; Below these are basement windows. Across the rear elevation are five small lead glass windows. One side of the rear elevation features a one-story hip entrance. The back entrance is at the corner of the building. The one-story entry also has a fixed window and a one-over-one window; both have brick sills.

From 1916 to the late 1960s, the upstairs interior walls were plaster. Between the late 1960s and 1991, the walls were covered with barn wood. Also in the late 1960s, the two rooms were converted into a studio and a gallery. In October of 1991, the east end of the building was covered with sheet rock. The west end is still covered with barn wood with a frame around a mural painted on the plaster on the west wall. The upstairs wall on the north end of the building consists of brick and insulation covered with sheet rock. The south end of the building is the same. Only the vestibule and the downstairs furnace room still retain the original tin ceiling. A studio and art gallery are covered with acoustical ceiling tiles. There is no tin above these tiles.

All the original wood is oak except the hemlock surrounding the lead glass panes. In 1991, wood was added to the windows to compensate for the insulation and sheet rock. The bottom sills were lost during renovation in the 1970s. French doors connect the gallery and the studio. These French doors, which are not original to the building, came from the *Sisseton Courier* newspaper shop. A small room on the north wall of the gallery was removed. This room was originally the librarian's office and work room. The small window in that area is the only window that does not retain any of its original sill.

The basement ceilings and walls are of plaster. When the building was built, there were two bathrooms located downstairs. The women's bathroom on the south side, was converted into a storage area. The men's bathroom was refurbished: the old round tank stool was removed to make

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86) OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7,8 Page 2

way for a more modern stool, but it was too large, and a small notch was cut into the door to allow it to close properly.

At the bottom of the stairs, a small water fountain was attached to the north wall between the bathroom and furnace room. Some of the original book cases from upstairs are now downstairs. Every doorway except three; have the wide door trim on both sides. The exceptions are the storage area door under the steps, the fuel tank room door, and the door leading to the outside stairs.

Narrative of Significance

The Sisseton Carnegie Library building, now known as CA's Photos and Framing, should be listed on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and C. This building is an excellent example of Neo-Classical architecture. It is one of only two known examples of Neo-Classical Architecture in Sisseton. The library is also a symbol of community development and planning. The building has embodied the dreams that America was built on. A small isolated community in the northeastern part of South Dakota dreamt first of providing learning and adventure through books. The resulting building also served as a facility that met the needs of organizations and service clubs. This came about through community leadership and the generosity of Andrew Carnegie. The second dream provided space for developing artists of the Native American community. Through the work of the Oblate Fathers, the building housed a studio in which Dakota artists could develop and sell their work.

Historic Background

The Sisseton Carnegie Library officially opened Thursday, March 16, 1916. Its inception began in February of 1906 when Mrs. J. O. Andrews, president of the Zenith Club, asked community churches to select a committee to start a reading room to be supported by private subscriptions. Because of the large response, a library building was soon being considered. In 1915, R.F. Sonstegard applied to the Andrew Carnegie Foundation, which offered \$7500 towards the construction of a Carnegie library. The community was to provide the location and guarantee maintenance, which it agreed to do in the 1915 spring election. Lots 22, 23, and 24 in Block 43 were chosen for the site. The construction contract was let to Carlson and Hasslen of Ortonville, MN, on September 1, 1915. W.B. Cole received the heating contract. The exterior pink granite blocks came from Milbank, SD. The library was opened to the public on Thursday, March 16, 1916. The library became a member of the South Dakota Library Association in May of 1917. The Sisseton Carnegie Librarians were Gertrude Leffingwell, Adele McDonald, Millie Arneson, and Delores Eggen.

name of property Sisseton Carnegie Library

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86) OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section <u>8</u> Page <u>3</u>

In addition to its library functions, the building also served as a gathering place for city and rural organizations. During World War II the Red Cross and Highway Department used the facilities. The downstairs children's library has twice been used as a classroom: (1) in 1936-37, classes were held there, when Central School burned down; (2) third graders spent part of the 1955-56 school year there, because the new elementary school was not completed.

A bequest of \$30,000 by Mrs. Agnes Turner and a grant from the South Dakota State Library Commission under the Library Services and Construction Act enabled the city of Sisseton to construct a new library in the 1960s. Bid letting was held in September of 1967. The new library was opened at its present location on April 16, 1969.

In 1968, Oblate Father John Pohlen, through the Tekakwitha Indian Mission, started the process of purchasing the old Carnegie building from the city with the hope of converting it into an art gallery and studio for local Dakota artists.

In March of 1969, Father Pohlen died before his dream became a reality. His successor, Father Leonard Baldus, continued the dream, filling the new center with paintings and drawings by local Dakota artists. Sisseton-Wahpeton Tribal Council members and Tribal Chairman Jerry Flute were very influential and supportive of Father Baldus' efforts. The building was named the Pohlen Cultural Center and thrived until the death of Paul WarCloud in 1973. While WarCloud was in residency, he painted the existing mural depicting the "Dakota Way of Life" on the west wall.

For a time the Seven Fires Enterprises was located in the building. The basement gift shop sold local artist's bead work and artwork. Felix Renville was the curator for the artifacts and art gallery. In 1987, the Northeast South Dakota Energy Conservation Corporation (NESDECC) purchased the building to use as a retail outlet store for hand-crafted and manufactured crafts by the Dakota people and for other merchandise. NESDECC replaced the heating system and roof. From 1989 to 1991, the Heritage Museum of Roberts County displayed historical articles and artists' work. On October 1, 1991, Carol Ann Hosmer purchased the building for a photography studio.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86) OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9,10 Page 4

Bibliography References:

Sisseton Memorial Library files

Evidence of Legally established library board, item 3 attachment #1
R. F. Sonstegard, "Early Day Reading Room Grew to Sisseton Library," Date Unknown.
Anonymus, "History of Sisseton Memorial Library," Date Unknown.
"Library Board Honors Mrs. Howard Babcock," <u>SissetonCourier</u>, May 26, 1949.
"Reading Room In Early Sisseton," <u>Sisseton Courier</u>, Aug 21, 1958.
"Carnegie Library Real Pioneer In Area History; Formed In 1906," <u>Sisseton Courier</u>, Aug 21, 1958.
MacKay, Mercedes. <u>South Dakota Library Bulletin</u>, 1963.
"Our Readers Say," <u>Sisseton Courier</u>, April 9, 1964

Personal Interviews transcripts with owner.

Guy Mackner, Sisseton Carnegie Library, Sisseton, SD, 1995 Garfield Landmark, Sisseton Carnegie Library, Sisseton, SD, 1995 Margaret Lehrke, Sisseton Carnegie Library, Sisseton, SD, 1995 Jerry Flute, Sisseton Carnegie Library, Sisseton, SD, 1995 Robert Hull, Sisseton Carnegie Library, Sisseton, SD, 1995 Harold Moore, Sisseton Carnegie Library, Sisseton, SD, 1995

Verbal Boundary Decscription:

Lot 22, 23 & 14 of Block 43 city of Sisseton, South Dakota

Boundary Justification:

Boundary include all property historically associated with the building.