

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only
received FEB 21 1984
date entered

1. Name

historic Auburn Public Library

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 49 Spring Street N/A not for publication

city, town Auburn, N/A vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state Maine code 23 county Androscoggin code 001

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name The Corporators of the Auburn Public Library/City of Auburn

street & number 49 Spring Street

city, town Auburn, N/A vicinity of state Maine 04210

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Androscoggin County Register of Deeds

street & number

city, town Auburn, state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? N/A yes ___ no

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Designed in a Chateausque style with Romanesque elements, the Auburn Public Library is constructed of brick with granite and copper trim. The main section, which is two stories high, is rectangular with a steeply pitched gable roof. The main (south) facade is divided into three sections. Comprising the east half of this elevation are three arcaded entrances. Each doorway is surmounted by a Gothic arch fashioned in stone. Symmetrically aligned above each opening is a pedimented wall dormer with ornate copper cresting.

A large polygonal ell projects out from the west side of this facade. Large round arched windows with granite trim and a hipped roof with a finial distinguish this wing from the main section of the library. In the center between the entrances and the ell is an octagonal stair tower with a conical roof and a copper finial.

The east and west elevations have windows with flat arched lintels on the first story and banks of round arched windows on the second story. Granite is used for the belt courses and the coping of each gable end. Attached to the north side of the building is a two-story brick addition with simple, square headed windows.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates 1903 **Builder/Architect** William R. Miller

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Auburn Public Library is a fascinating architectural statement of great sophistication which sets it apart from the other buildings on Court Street and has firmly established it as a prominent city landmark. It was designed by William R. Miller, a highly creative Portland architect.

Founded in 1890 as a subscription library, it received \$1,000.00 from the City of Auburn in 1895 upon condition that it become a free library to all Auburn citizens. Early in 1903 the city council agreed to accept \$25,000.00 from Andrew Carnegie for a new library building on condition that the city provide the lot and agree to provide funds for the support of the library.

William R. Miller designed many important buildings in Maine including the Lawrence Library in Fairfield and the L. C. Bates Museum at the Hinckley School, both of which are listed on the National Register.

9. Major Bibliographical References

"Lewiston Journal", Magazine Section, July 14, 1979

"Lewiston Journal", September 12, 1919.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1/2

Quadrangle name Lewiston

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	9	4	0	1	5	7	0	4	8	8	3	2	7	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 8, Block 1, Lot 93

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Frank A. Beard, Historian/Roger G. Reed, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date January, 1984

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/289-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine 04333

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature [Signature] date 2/10/84
title S.H.P.O.

For NPS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
[Signature] Entered in the National Register date 3/22/84
Keeper of the National Register
Attest: _____ date _____
Chief of Registration