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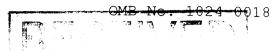
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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

continuation sheet for additional comments.)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM



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MATHURAL REGISTER, HISTORY

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determancement for individual properties and districts. See instructness and 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.

typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items. 1. Name of Property historic name Kraft, Herbert, Memorial Free Library other names/site number Kraft Free Library; Kraft Library Location street & number 909 Jefferson **N/A** not for publication Red Bluff city or town vicinity N/A code CA county Tehama state California zip code **96080** State/Federal Agency Certification ==== As the designated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 $_{\rm X}$ meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide x locally. (See

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration form	
Kraft Free Library Tehama County, CA	2
Hannel Meyta 7eb. 22, 2000	
Signature of certifying official Date	
State Historic Preservation Officer	
State or Federal agency and bureau	
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the N Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional	National comments.)
Signature of commenting or other official Date	
State or Federal agency and bureau	
==== 4. National Park Service Certification ====================================	
===	\sim
I, he reby certify that this property is (1)	(1)
entered in the National Register	N_{\perp}
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): /)	
11 am	4-14-00
Signature of Keeper	Date
	of Action
5. Classification	
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) _X_ private	
private public-local	
<pre>public-local public-State public-Federal</pre>	
public-Federal	
Category of Property (Check only one box)	
X building(s)	
district	
district site structure	
object	

Number of Resources within Property

	ntributing11	Noncontribu bui sit str obj	ldings tes ructures jects			
Number of Register _	_	resources p	oreviously li	sted in the N	ational	
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==== 6. Functio	n or Use					====
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	Vacant			Not in Use		
======================================	=======================================					====
_La	te 19 th and 20 th	Cation (Ente	s/Classical	from instruc	tions)	

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
foundation _Concrete
roofAsphalt
wallsBrick
otherSteps = Granite
Decorative Elements = Sandstone_
Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
See Attached Narrative Description.
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. less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within
e a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
g less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
Criterion A: Education and Social History
Criterion C: Architecture

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Kraft Free Li	brary.	
Tehama County	, CA	

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USDI/NPS NRHP Registration : Kraft Free Library Tehama County, CA	form	5
Period of Significance	1909 - 1949	
Significant Person (Com	plete if Criterion B is ma	arked above)
Cultural Affiliation		
Architect/Builder B	urnham, Franklin Pierce	
Narrative Statement of property on one or more	Significance (Explain the continuation sheets.)	significance of the
See Attached Statement of Sig	nificance.	
===== 9. Major Bibliographica	l References	
=====		
(Cite the books, articl one or more continuations See Attached Bibliography.		d in preparing this form on
Previous documentation	on file (NPS)	
ramusetad	nation of individual list n the National Register ed eligible by the Nation al Historic Landmark c American Buildings Surv c American Engineering Re	
Primary Location of Add	itional Data	
State Historic Pres Other State agency Federal agency X Local government X University - UC Ber X Other	keley	
Name of repository: Te	hama County Library Red Bluff (`A

JSDI/NPS NRHP	Registration	form
Kraft Free Lil	orary	
Tehama County	, CA	

10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property _Less than One Acre
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing 1
See continuation sheet.
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) See Attached Verbal Boundary Description.
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) See Attached Boundary Justification.
11. Form Prepared By
name/titleErin Brown-Espinoza
organization Relics
date1/20/99
street & number478 Warren Drive, #523 telephone415/665.5755
city or town_San Francisco state_CA_ zip code _94131
====================================
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. Included.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Included .

Photographs Included.

Representative black and white photographs of the property.
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)
25x25x4x4xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Property Owner
====
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)
nameDr. Ronald Clark
street & number_P.O. Box 969 telephone_530/527.4311
city or town_RedBluffstate_CA zip code _96080
==== Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for
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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 properties, 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.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Herbert Kraft Memorial Free Library (Kraft Library) is a one and a half story classic revival building with a cross-axial floor plan and a full, ground-level basement. It sits squarely in the middle of a 14,375 square foot lot at the corner of Jefferson and Hickory Streets in Red Bluff's historic Victorian district (at the edge of the town's commercial district). The building is surrounded on all sides by a grassy lawn. A concrete walkway connects the building's main entrance to the sidewalk. The lot and building's exterior have not been appreciably altered since the building's construction in 1909.

The unreinforced masonry building is clad in Gladding McBean's pressed brick in a mottled buff color with a dark buff mortar set in a stretcher bond pattern. It sits on a concrete foundation and is trimmed with Blue Gray Sandstone from the same Colusa, California quarry that provided sandstone for the San Francisco Mint and Ferry buildings. Sandstone is used for the pilasters; the window lintels and sills; the entry (including columns and stair support); and as the cladding below the elevated main floor.

Windows emphasize the symmetrical design of the library. Basement windows are set below main floor windows and the windows of the Trustee's Room (tucked under the building's eaves) are set above the windows for the workroom on the main floor and the basement below. Both side elevations (south and north) have five matching windows on the main floor and five for the basement. At the rear inside corners, one large window (matching the windows found on the sides of the building) faces west. A smaller version of these windows is found on the southern and northern inside corners. The three windows for the main floor workroom (sets of three windows sit above and below the workroom windows) are centered and recessed into cut stone on the rear/west elevation. Pairs of windows (matching those found on the south and north elevations) sit on either side of the library entry. On the right side of the front elevation, a basic wood door (with five concrete stairs leading down to it)

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replaced the inner basement window when the basement was finished in the 1960's (this door was planned for in the original design). The basement windows are operable. They have vertical wooden sashes and are recessed into the cut stone. The main floor windows (excepting those found at the rear/west elevation) are all stationary and made of large panes of plate glass and wooden sashes. Hinged transoms with obscured glass (granite glass as per the specifications) sit above them and open into the building. Each transom is divided vertically in half with a sash and then each half is subdivided into eight triangles. Each window has a cut stone lugsill and lintel with a decorated center keystone.

There are three entrances to the building: the main entrance described below, the basement entrance added in the 1960's, and a door at the right rear (northwest) interior corner of the building which opens to interior stairs leading up to the main floor and down to the basement.

The roof is flat and was originally covered in a Malthoid roofing material. It has been re-roofed with asphalt. A pressed brick parapet wall with cut stone trim runs the perimeter of the roof. At the front of the building (facing Jefferson Street), it connects with a cut stone pediment that marks the entrance to the building. The parapet sits on a cut stone cornice with dentils, egg and dart trim, and an undecorated pressed brick frieze.

The entrance is centered in the front elevation. It is pulled out in front of the building with granite steps leading up to a covered stoop and an entry alcove with double doors. Cut stone railings border the stairs. Cast iron light posts sit on either side of the stairs atop the railings. These light posts have been reworked to accept modern lights, but are original to the building. One light post was removed, but has been located in the basement of the building.

The cut stone pediment is supported by four Ionic columns (with smooth shafts) on either side of the entry landing atop the stairs. Carved into the pediment's frieze is the name of the library. The tympanum of the pediment is carved with floral detail and the date 1908 (the year construction started). Dentils, egg and dart trim, and acroterion at the peak and corners of the pediment decorate the cornice.

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The walls of the entry are clad in cut stone. The two sets of wood and glass double doors original to the building are not currently hung -- the inner pair of doors has been replaced with more modern aluminum and glass doors while the outer set has simply been removed (both sets are in storage in the building). The exterior doorway is trimmed with carved stone. A large transom with obscured glass and a pattern similar to that of the windows sits above both sets of doors. Between the two sets of doors is a small entry vestibule with semi-circular alcoves set on either side of the doors. The floor is set with mosaic tile while the walls are plaster with oak wood wainscot. A pendant light fixture original to the building hangs from the ceiling.

The interior is not appreciably altered from the original design. The light and plumbing fixtures were updated, the basement was finished, the original oil heating system was replaced with a more modern furnace, and the walls were painted, but the building retains its original floor plan and other finishes and details.

An upstairs room tucked at the back of the building and accessed by a narrow stairwell running from the basement was designed to be the Board of Library Trustees' conference room. The single room has an attached storeroom designed to be converted into a bathroom in the future. At one point a toilet had been installed, but was later removed.

The conference room has a coved plaster ceiling and a skylight that has been boarded up. The walls are painted plaster with oak chairrail and picture molding running the perimeter of the room. Oak is used to trim the windows and doors. Built-in benches and a dumbwaiter travelling to the basement are also paneled in oak. The wood is all stained. Under one bench is an original cast iron ventilation grate. The five-panel doors to the storeroom and stairwell are paneled in oak veneer. There are three operable casement windows on the exterior wall to the room. They act as double windows – there are inner panes that open inward while the outer panes open outward. The original light fixtures in the room have been replaced with florescent strip lighting.

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The only stairwell in the building runs from the Trustees conference room down to the basement and is located at the northwest interior corner of the building. It is narrow, with a landing at the top and main floor, and intermediate landings between the floors. The entire stairwell – including the chairrail, trim, railings, and treads – is built of yellow pine stained to match the oak used elsewhere in the building. The original light fixtures remain. The door to the outside, located at the intermediate landing between the main floor and the basement originally had a large window. The window was removed and the hole covered in plywood.

The main floor was designed to house most of the library's functions. It boasts an open floor plan – only the bathrooms and workroom have doors. The Stacks, Rotunda, Children's, Reference, and Reading areas all share the open space that is the main floor. Upon walking through the library's front doors the visitor steps into the Rotunda: an octagonal space defined by four freestanding lonic columns and four engaged lonic columns. Opposite the entry is a door with sidelights (of obscured glass with decorative sashwork) leading to the workroom found at the rear of the building. On either side of the Rotunda are wings that at one time housed the library's collections.

The Rotunda was not just the entry area, but also housed the delivery desk for the librarian. The delivery desk and other furnishings have been removed, but the skylight, a stained glass circle with a Victorian design and a diameter of more than fourteen feet, is still in place. It sits at the top of a dome above the center of the rotunda. The columns support the dome. The glass dome that provided light for the skylight has been removed and replaced with plywood. The skylight has not been modified since its installation in 1909.

The wings on either side of the Rotunda held the Stacks and Children's, Reference and Reading Rooms. The wings are shaped like irregular six-sided polygons (with one side open to the Rotunda). Most of the furnishings have been removed and/or replaced with more modern equipment (specifically the overhead lights and water fountain). Furniture (the delivery desk, reading tables, chairs, etc.) designed for the library was removed when the library closed in 1982. The shelves for the stacks are original to the building and are made of the same quarter sawn oak used throughout the library. They remain in their

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designated location in the north wing. More modern shelving has been added as well.

There are three fireplaces on the main floor. All three were designed to heat the building in "medium cold weather" and are faced in mottled green and yellow ceramic hearth tile. Their mantles are stained oak to match the surrounding wainscot. One fireplace is in the north wing – it backs the entry vestibule. The other two fireplaces are in the south wing. One fireplace backs the entry vestibule, the other sits at an angle against the workroom wall. Oak paneled wainscot runs the length of the main floor and ties the wings and Rotunda together. Oak is used to trim the windows and doors as well.

The ceilings are edged with decorative plaster moldings and crossed with exposed beams. The original lighting has been replaced with hanging florescent strip fixtures. The floors were originally yellow pine vertical grain 1 x 4's covered in cork carpet. Sections of cork carpet remain, in other areas the pine boards have been exposed. In the Rotunda, the cork carpet has been replaced with linoleum tile.

On the rear wall of the north wing, behind the stacks, a door leads to a closet-sized men's toilet. A small lightwell provides some filtered natural light. The fixtures have been updated, but the room has not been otherwise altered. On the rear wall of the south wing, a door leads to the women's toilet. Again, the fixtures have been updated, but the room has not been otherwise altered. Another door leads from the women's room to the workroom.

The workroom, at the rear of the library is lined with built-in cabinetry. Three doors lead to the women's room, the Rotunda, and the stairwell. A row of three operable windows matches those of the Trustee's conference room. The cabinetry, a series of shelves and glass-fronted cabinets, run from floor to ceiling. While the yellow pine was originally stained, they are currently painted. Most of the cabinetry and panelling has been significantly altered. The floors are still covered in cork carpet and the ceiling is edged in a simpler plaster molding. The original lighting has been replaced with florescent strip lighting.

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According to an article in the Red Bluff Daily News (10/24/06) the basement was left incomplete "excepting the rear room which is to be used for unpacking books." In the 1960's the basement was finished to accommodate the consolidation of the community's library with the Tehama County library. The basement currently has a concrete floor and a combination of exposed brick and plaster walls. The ceiling was covered in acoustic ceiling tile, much of which has been removed. The basement accommodates the furnace, the water heater, and a utilitarian, and more recently built, bathroom. A small storeroom with rudimentary shelving was used to store books. Overhead florescent lighting was installed when the basement was converted to hold the county's books.

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Introduction:

The Herbert Kraft Memorial Free Library (Kraft Free Library), Tehama County's first public library, meets the National Register Criterion A and C as a property that represents patterns of local history in Tehama County and also as a building that embodies the distinctive characteristics of Classical Revival architecture and "small library" construction in the early part of this century. Built by Franklin Pierce Burnham, the architect responsible for many of California's early libraries, it opened May 22, 1909, after years of planning and discussion. While it was built as a memorial to Herbert Kraft, an influential early resident of the County, it would become important to the community as a regional center for education and community interaction until its closure in 1982*. In addition, the Kraft Free Library is arguably the most significant Classical Revival building in Tehama County. Its interior, largely unchanged since 1909, is representative of design philosophy of small town libraries in the early decades of the century.

Historical Background:

Red Bluff was founded in its current location on the Sacramento River in 1850. By 1854 a series of natural disasters and the efforts of a coalition of riverboat owners ensured Red Bluff's future as the year-round navigational head for the Sacramento River. With a solid commercial base, the prosperous community grew and, by the 1870 census, Red Bluff boasted 2,000 residents. In 1871, the railroad arrived in Red Bluff and in 1876 the Sierra Flume and Lumber Company set up operations. The groundwork had been laid. By the turn of the century, Red Bluff had become a commercial, transportation, and lumber hub in the northern part of the state.

As early as 1861, efforts were underway in Red Bluff to start a library. In 1904, Red Bluff became a candidate for a Carnegie library and involved

^{*} Please note that while the property continued to be important in the areas of education and social history after 1950, nothing of exceptional importance occurred within the last fifty years. The period of significance is, therefore, ended arbitrarily in 1950.

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residents set about raising funds to match the Carnegie grant and finding an appropriate site for the proposed library. Possible locations for the library were hotly debated, and by 1906, no consensus had been reached. In February, 1906 plans for a Carnegie library were brought to a standstill, however, when an anonymous philanthropist came forward and offered to donate \$25,000 to buy the land and build a library for the community.

The anonymous donor identified herself as Elizabeth Kraft when, in the aftermath of the San Francisco Earthquake, plans for the library were stalled. The parcel of land at Hickory and Jefferson had been secured before the earthquake but the destruction caused by the earthquake and subsequent fire led to major increases in the price of building materials and a shortage of contractors available to do the work. The library board decided to hold off on any further work on the library until building conditions were better. At this point, Elizabeth Kraft stepped forward to expedite construction. Building began early in 1908 and was completed a year later. Elizabeth Kraft donated over \$40,000 to ensure the library's completion.

Elizabeth Kraft dedicated the library to her late husband, Herbert Kraft. Kraft was one of the first citizens of Red Bluff and heavily involved in its evolution. He arrived in Red Bluff in the fall of 1854 and was quickly employed as a tinsmith. As the town grew, he was quick to recognize opportunities to capitalize on the growth -- buying and renting land; starting and selling businesses; ultimately becoming the largest single landowner in the county and owner of one of the County's first banks. He was very involved in civic life and served on both the City's Board of Trustee's and the County Board of Supervisors.

The Kraft Free Library was donated to the people of Red Bluff with few stipulations. It was the request of Elizabeth Kraft, however, that the property always be used as a free library, available to any resident without consideration of the resident's color, race, or religion. It was also stipulated that if the building was ever abandoned or used for another purpose, the community would forfeit its rights to the building and return the property to the Kraft family. The Kraft Free Library was used as the city's public library until 1962. In 1962, the City and County merged their library systems and the Kraft Free Library became the main branch of the Tehama County Public Library. In 1982, citing a lack of space for expansion, the Library Board of Trustees decided to move the branch out of the

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building and into a larger, more accessible space. Although the library was briefly home to the Tehama County Literacy Movement, the Kraft Free Library has been vacant since the 1986.

In 1988, in response to building's apparent neglect, the last remaining Kraft heir, Herbert Kraft Walton, sued the City to take back the library. Filing suit in the Tehama County Superior Court, he argued that "the city... violated the trust signed by his great-grandmother in 1909." (San Francisco Chronicle 4/25/88). The case was brought before the California Court of Appeals where it was determined that the city had indeed violated the agreement. The building was later returned to the Kraft family.

Significance:

The Kraft Free Library makes a valuable architectural and historical contribution to the City of Red Bluff. Before the library was even built, the Red Bluff Daily News reported that the library would: "emphasize the fact that Red Bluff has entered a new era of prosperity and progress." (9/7/06) The library was considered a monument to the community's stability and affluence. At the dedication ceremony, speakers declared the library a harbinger of the future. "I look forward to the time when Red Bluff shall have a wide reputation as a library center," prophesied Jonathan J. Wells, an attorney, speaking at the event. Mayor Walter Bransford, who dedicated the building to the "cause of morality and education" argued that this building moved the city twenty-five years into the future (Evening Sentinel 5/24/09). Over the years, the Kraft Free Library remained a center for education and social interaction for the community. During its life as a library it has also acted as a local museum; the birthplace of a literacy campaign; and the backdrop for Shakespearean monologues, ice-cream socials, and children's story hours. As the City fathers predicted, and Elizabeth Kraft hoped, the Kraft Free Library was a tribute to the hard work of one man and the aspirations of Red Bluff's early residents. More importantly, it became an active vehicle to encourage residents in the early decades of the century to continue to grow the community in positive ways.

Architecturally, the Kraft Free Library is noteworthy as well. As with most Classical Revival buildings, it is monumental in size, meaning not that it's large so much as it is reminiscent of Greek and Roman temples in its design. It is set in the middle of its lot with little landscaping in order to set it apart from

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surrounding buildings. The building is strongly symmetrical, with windows that mirror one another on each wing, pairs of columns, and decorative trim in simple, repetitive patterns. Columns are used both in the interior and exterior. The Ionic columns on the exterior support the cut stone pediment over the front door. The pedimented portico, made of cut sandstone includes a tympanum and acroterion, details commonly found in Classical Revival architecture. The library uses more Greek forms than Roman; the windows and doors are not arched, but rely upon the large cut stone lintels the Greeks used. Cut stone (both sandstone and granite) are used liberally as lintels, cornice and trim. Finally, like most Classical Revival buildings, the Kraft Free Library is not overly adorned. Using the sandstone for decoration as well as function, oversized windows, and a few beautiful gestures (like the skylight), the building is impressive without feeling theatrical.

Most architectural historians argue that the Classical Revival movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries was greatly encouraged by the Columbian Exposition of 1893 followed by other exhibitions around the country. Derived from architects trained in Europe in the Beaux Arts tradition, the Classical Revival style was used predominantly for public buildings. According to Carole Rifkind in her text, A Field Guide to American Architecture, public buildings were to reflect the attitudes of the Country: "This was to be architecture for all time - grand in scale, monumental, symmetrical, luxuriously appointed, with a broad and richly pictorial vocabulary of Classical ornament. Its mode was noble, for it was the architecture of a society that sought reform, progress – perfection." (Rifkind, p.217). Cities as large as New York and as small as Red Bluff commissioned public buildings in the Classical Revival style to demonstrate the community's American ideals. The Kraft Free Library is one of the few Classical Revival Buildings in Tehama County. In Red Bluff, the County seat, the only other true neo-classical building is the Tehama County Courthouse. Because the community's older building stock is almost entirely Victorian, the Kraft Free Library and Tehama County Courthouse stand out as the city's civic buildings.

Moreover, the Kraft Free Library is architecturally significant because it is a strong example of what small town libraries were expected to look like in the early part of the century. At the turn of the century library construction was the topic of countless articles in design and construction journals. More libraries were being built than ever before. At the same time, the methodology behind how a library was organized was just evolving. Librarians were considering new

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ways to organize their collections, and expanding their activities into new fields. Architects and planners were expected to accommodate these new requirements. Franklin Pierce Burnham, the same architect who designed many other libraries in the state of California (i.e. Pomona and Covina) designed the Kraft Free Library. The Kraft Free Library is a good example of the prototypical small library. Charles Soule, in his article "Modern Library Buildings" described a small library as "libraries containing from 1000 to 5000 volumes and situated in small towns not likely to grow either largely or rapidly." (The Architectural Review, vol. 9, p. 4) Another article -- "The Planning of Small Libraries" -- describes the layout of the Kraft Free Library when it outlined the optimal layout for libraries costing between \$15,000 and \$50,000 as: "the reading room is on one side of the entrance. There is a children's room on the other side, and the delivery desk is opposite the front door." (The Brickbuilder, vol.10, pps.163). Both articles promote the use of "stacks", a relatively new device in library organization, over alcoves, the traditional form of book organization. The Kraft Free Library used both stacks and alcoves to house its collection.

The Kraft Free Library is not a large library, but it is a good example of the design philosophy applied to early twentieth century libraries. It is perhaps the best example of the Classical Revival building style in Tehama County. More importantly, the Kraft Free Library is an important element in the social history of Red Bluff and Tehama County. It was meant as a monument to one man and a tribute to a thriving young community. Over the years, the library has become representative of the best intentions of the community – a place where educational pursuit is encouraged and the entire family can be entertained. It was built when the community was young and full of hope and it was in operation supporting the community as it grew. The Herbert Kraft Memorial Free Library, now vacant, today stands as a monument to literacy, education, self-improvement, and the wholesome values on which the community was founded.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The entire parcel shown as parcel number 29-304-3 in the Tehama County Assessor's Map Book.

VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Herbert Kraft Memorial Free Library.

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