

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation 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 HCRS use only

received NOV 27 1979

date entered JAN 20 1980

1. Name

historic Chapman Branch Library

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 577 South 900 West _____ not for publication

city, town Salt Lake City _____ vicinity of congressional district 02

state Utah code 049 county Salt Lake code 035

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

4. Owner of Property

name Salt Lake City Corporation

street & number Salt Lake City and County Bldg, State Street 4th South

city, town Salt Lake City _____ vicinity of state Utah

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Salt Lake City and County Bldg.

street & number State Street 4th South

city, town Salt Lake City _____ state Utah

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Utah Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date July 1979 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Utah State Historical Society

city, town Salt Lake City _____ state Utah

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

The Chapman Branch Library is a red brick one and one-half story "L" shaped building with modest Classical Revival detailing. To take advantage of its corner site, the building's broad steps and entrance portico are placed at the intersection of the two ell wings facing the corner. The wings are approximately seventy-five feet long and thirty-five feet wide. The raised basement wall projects slightly forward of the upper floor and is outlined by a stone belt course. The main floor windows and entrance door are round arches with simple gothic tracery in the arches. Pairs of doric columns flank the corner entrance, with an unadorned entablature and parapet above. A cut stone block above the entrance is inscribed "Free Public Library".

The interior is largely unaltered. It includes a large varnished doric column, and much of the original library furniture and shelving.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1918 **Builder/Architect** Ashton Improvement Co/Don Carlos Young, Jr.

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Chapman Branch Library, located on the west side of Salt Lake City, is significant because of its architectural and educational importance, as well as being the city's only Carnegie Foundation-funded library. Built as a Carnegie library in 1918, this one and one-half story, "L" shaped brick structure with Classical Revival detailing was designed by prominent Utah architect Don Carlos Young, Jr., and stands out visually in a residential section of the city. The west side of Salt Lake housed many of the city's immigrants and working class, and the establishment of this library by the Carnegie Foundation, with the funding of \$25,000, was in keeping with its intent to make books available to working class families. The library remains physically intact and still serves the purpose for which it was built.

The public library philanthropy of Andrew Carnegie, steel magnate, touched some 1406 communities during the years 1898 to 1919. That philanthropy was based on the sense that the rich had an obligation to use their excess wealth for the betterment of mankind. The public library in the nineteenth century was promoted as a viable means of "moral elevation" and as an agency for alleviating social ills common to the rising urban social order --crime, alcoholism, prostitution, etc. Carnegie was also influenced by his business background in the sense that he viewed a city's investment as greater than his. Once a gift was made, it remained the city's responsibility to furnish and maintain the structure. Thus, Carnegie's contribution acted as an impetus to the commitment by a city to establish a free public library. Such was the case in Salt Lake City.

The campaign to seek Carnegie funding began in 1916, with \$15,000 allocated, and ended in 1917 with a grant for \$25,000. The library board, headed by John D. Spencer, and a citizen's committee, chaired by I. E. Willey, worked together towards a common goal. The Chapman Branch library, temporarily housed at 102 North Fifth West was deemed inadequate to serve the needs of the west side, primarily because the building was leased and too small. Local citizens struggled to secure the land and the library board appealed for Carnegie funds. In 1916, \$15,000 was allocated, but in the process of developing plans and specifications, this amount became inadequate.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bobinski, George S., Carnegie Libraries, Chicago: American Library Association, 1969. "Branch Library Scrapbook," Salt Lake City Library, Special Collections
 Deseret News, April 27, 1917, p.16; July 18, 1917, p.2; May 28, 1918, p.1 (second section)
 Salt Lake City Building Permit, #9537, September 1, 1917, Utah State Historical Society

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre
 Quadrangle name Salt Lake City North, Utah

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>2</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>1</u> <u>1</u> <u>9</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C			
E			
G			

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
F			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Southwest corner of Block 22, Plat C, Salt Lake City

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Philip F. Notarianni, Historian/Karl Haglund, Architectural Historian
 organization Utah State Historical Society date September 19, 1979
 street & number 307 West 200 South Suite 1000 telephone (801) 533-6017
 city or town Salt Lake City state Utah

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Melvin T. Smith

title Melvin T. Smith, State Historic Preservation Officer date November 20, 1979

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Sally G. Old</u> Keeper of the National Register	date <u>1/20/80</u>
Attest: <u>Mustin O'Connell</u> Chief of Registration	date <u>1/16/80</u>

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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Don Carlos Young, grandson of Brigham and Emily Dow Patridge Young, designed the building while working for the firm Joseph Don Carlos Young, and Son. Young is also known for the layout of the University of Utah campus and various LDS Church buildings. Young drew the plans and in April through July 1917, a struggle ensued between the Salt Lake contingent and the Carnegie architect over the fact that the \$25,000 later allocated was to be for the building and furnishings, and that the plans as submitted by Young indicated the building itself would cost more than the allotted amount. The plans were accepted under the stipulation that the building be erected within the \$25,000 appropriation. The library board assured the foundation that it would furnish the structure.

Ashton Improvement Company of Salt Lake began construction. The building was dedicated in May 1918, and represented an imposing and architecturally pleasing addition to the west side area (as it still does). The red brick structure, with Classical Revival detailing, sits on a corner with each of its two seventy-five foot wings running north and east away from the corner to form an "L" shaped building. A stone belt course and round arched windows accent the structure and add to its distinct appearance in the area.

Newspaper reports of the dedication stressed the importance of the library for the west side, referred to as the "West Side Library". It was hailed as "the beginning of the greatest social, intellectual and civic development the west side of the city has yet known."¹ The Carnegie foundation made no demands that funded libraries be named after the benefactor; consequently, the west side library was named "Chapman Library" after Annie E. Chapman, who served as the first librarian of the Salt Lake City Public Library System.

The Chapman Branch became the only branch owned by Salt Lake City, as others were leased. Utah received a total of twenty-three Carnegie libraries, but the Chapman received the most funding and became the only Carnegie library funded in the city. Four others had been anticipated. In addition, the Chapman Branch worked in cooperation with local school classes. Reading lists were prepared to correspond with

¹ Deseret News, May 28, 1918, p. 1 (second section)

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geography lessons, and students were instructed in the use of reference books.

Salt Lake City's west side is still served by the Chapman Branch, which continues to be a source of neighborhood pride. The Carnegie idea of a free public library serving the general public and supported by the City remains a reality in the Chapman Branch Library.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

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Salt Lake County Plat Records
Sanborn Maps, Salt Lake City, 1911, 1933, 1958.

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The nominated property includes approximately a 120 x 130 foot section of the southwest corner of Block 22, Plat C, Salt Lake City. From the corner of 900 West and 600 South the property proceeds east for about 120 feet, then north approximately 130 feet, west 120 feet, returning to the beginning point.

