

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 JUL 28 1982  
date entered

1. Name

historic Montevideo Public Library

and/or common Montevideo Public Library

2. Location

street & number 125 North <sup>3rd.</sup> ~~Third~~ Street N/A not for publication

city, town Montevideo N/A vicinity of ~~Congressional District~~ N/A

state Minnesota code 22 county Chippewa code 023

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name City of Montevideo

street & number 103 Canton Avenue

city, town Montevideo N/A vicinity of state Minnesota 56265

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds, Chippewa County Courthouse

street & number N/A

city, town Montevideo state Minnesota 56265

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date N/A N/A  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

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## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Constructed in 1906, the Montevideo Carnegie Library is an essentially square (30' by 32') frame structure with a pressed brick exterior veneer and Bedford stone trim. It is one story in height and set upon a high basement. The roof is a low hip presently sheathed with asphalt composition shingles.

The dominant architectural feature of the Library is the symmetrical principal facade executed in the Neo-Classic style. The entry is centrally located and contained within a pedimented portico with paired Ionic columns set upon high brick plinths. The tympanum of the pediment is adorned with a raised garland-and-swag motif and dentil. The entry itself is a double door surrounded by brick quoins and capped by a semi-circular arch. Brick quoins also highlight the corners of all facades.

On the interior, the building is divided into two full-story floors. An open stairway provides access to both levels from the entrance vestibule. The basement presently has been partitioned, although it originally was designed for one large room suitable for public gatherings and meetings. The second level was entirely devoted to the library and reading room.

The Library is presently vacant; however, plans have been made to adapt it for use as a community arts center. It is in good condition and has been well maintained.

# 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 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		

<b>Specific dates</b> 1907	<b>Builder/Architect</b> Martin Granum/architect Everet Iverson/builder
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**Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)**

The Montevideo Public Library is significant as a modest, local adaptation of the Neo-Classic style of architecture and as a Carnegie endowed building which served the library needs of the Montevideo community from 1907 to 1968. The founding of the Montevideo Library dates to 1879 when 9 citizens contributed a dollar each to a society called the Montevideo Library Club. In 1882 the society incorporated as the Montevideo Library Association. The library was housed in the Chippewa County Bank until 1892, when the city took over the management of the library and moved it to a room in the city hall. By 1905 it became evident that larger quarters were needed. After much work, \$10,000 was received from the Carnegie Foundation on the condition that the city furnish a site and provide financial support for the library. Two years later construction of the new library began on land donated to the city by Charles Budd and John King. Architect Martin Granum and contractor Everett Iverson were commissioned to design and build the structure. Granum, who studied under Minneapolis architect Harry Jones, was a favorite of Montevideo residents and is responsible for the design of numerous private residences and public buildings in the city. In 1907 the library formerly opened, boasting a total collection of 4,000 volumes, significantly greater than the original 47 books of 1879. The building served as the city library until 1968, when a new regional library building was constructed. Used for a time as a racquet ball club, the building is now vacant. A fund drive is now under way to raise money for the building's restoration and re-use by the community. This city-wide movement parallels the movement a century ago which established the library system in the city, and is indicative of the prominent position the library held and continues to hold in the city. Its 60 years of service to Montevideo and the promise of continued community use, as well as its architectural style, make it a local community landmark.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet - page 1

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Montevideo Quad., MN

Quadrangle scale 7.5

### UMT References

A	<u>15</u>	<u>285200</u>	<u>4980400</u>
	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

Vacated Sherman Avenue East of Alley, Block K of Original Plat of the City of Montevideo, Minnesota, located in southwest quarter, northeast quarter, section 18, Township 117, Range 40.

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

state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
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state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charles W. Nelson, Historical Architect; Susan Roth, Research Historian

organization Minnesota Historical Society

date 3 May 1982

street & number Fort Snelling History Center

telephone 612-726-1171

city or town St. Paul

state Minnesota

# 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

Russell W. Fridley  
Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date

7/23/82

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date

8/26/82

Delores Byers  
Keeper of the National Register

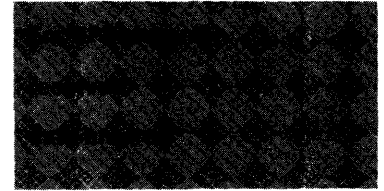
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Montevideo Public Library  
Continuation sheet

Item number 9

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Bibliography

Moyer, Lycurgus R. and Ole G. Dale, eds. History of Chippewa and Lac Qui Parle Counties, Minnesota. Indianapolis: B.F. Bowen & Co., 1916.

"Our New Library Building," The Commercial, 12 April 1907, P. 4.

"Our New Library Opened," Montevideo Leader, 12 April 1907, P. 4.

Skaalen, Jon. "City landmark may be restored as arts center," Montevideo American News. August 20, 1981.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Melvin Lyman  
1/19/89

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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**Note: These changes apply to  
Montevideo Public Library in  
Chippewa County, Minnesota.**

**REFERENCE NUMBER:** 82002938

**STATE:** MINNESOTA

**COUNTY:** Chippewa

**RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):** Montevideo Carnegie Library

**CITY:**

**VICINITY OF:**

**ADDRESS:**

**CERTIFICATION DATE:**

**REMOVED DATE:**

**COMMENTS:**

*Nina M. Archabal*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Nina M. Archabal**  
**State Historic Preservation Officer**

**JUN 17 1988**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**