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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	DATA SHEET
RECEIVED	FEB 15 1978
DATE ENTERED	JUL 12 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

^e
Rangeley Public Library

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Lake Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Rangeley

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
2nd

STATE

Maine

__ VICINITY OF

CODE
23

COUNTY

Franklin

CODE

007 ✓

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER: Library

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Rangeley Library Association

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rangeley

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maine

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Franklin County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Farmington,

Maine STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__ FEDERAL __ STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7-DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Rangeley Public Library, designed by Ambrose Walker of New York City and built in 1909 by F.W. Cunningham & Sons of Portland, is a very fine and well preserved example of late modified Romanesque Revival style public building.

The Library consists of a 1½-story structure with basement, with walls of local fieldstone and trim of granite from North Jay, Maine. Its steeply-pitched hip roof is covered with slates and metal sheathing. On each of the four sides of the roof is a dormer with shed roof; the facade and rear dormers each contain a pair of single-sash windows of 9 panes each; the side dormers each contain a single 12-paned window.

The three-bayed principal facade, which faces east, features a recessed central entrance above a short flight of granite steps. Below an arched and bracketed hood (which extends from the roof) is a slightly arched granite lintel upon which is carved the words "PUBLIC LIBRARY". The recessed door, flanked by 6-paned sidelights, is panelled and contains an 8-paned window. To either side of the entrance is a 12/12 window flanked by narrow 6/6 windows, all below a stone arch and fitted with a granite sill. The windows on the rear and ends of the library are equivalent, the ends of the building containing one bay.

A basement window is positioned under each bay on all sides of the library. These consist of 8-paned single sash windows framed by granite lintels and sills.

Internally the building is in good condition. The half story was remodelled in 1960 and the reading room has been upgraded through the years with the provision of additional shelving. Woodwork and other details of the interior, however, have not been altered or damaged.

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" 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 1909 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Ambrose Walker

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rangeley Public Library is a small structure of unusual charm and grace suited exactly to the ambiance of this early summer resort region. Built entirely of native Maine materials and designed by Ambrose Walker of New York City in a modified Romanesque Revival style, it is sited on a side street in Rangely village which runs down to the shore of Rangeley Lake.

The Rangeley Lake region, lying deep in the heart of a heavily forested and mountainous area that reaches northwest across the Canadian border, attracted sportsmen as early as the 1860's. The forests then were teeming with game and the lakes filled with various game fish. By the 1870's the scenic beauty and relatively cool summer temperatures brought an increasing number of seasonal visitors and the area became a popular resort center.

As in the case of many another summer colony, Rangely drew to it people accustomed to and interested in cultural facilities not the least of which was an adequate library. At first a largely donated collection of books was housed in a corner of Mrs. Emma McCard's dressmaking establishment. In 1907 a Library Association was formed and after a brief but successful fund drive land was acquired and the library building begun. Dedication exercises were held on August 12th, 1909, with a dedicatory address by Prof. Henry L. Chapman of Bowdoin College. The cost of the building was \$8,500.

This free library now possesses a substantial collection of over 12,000 volumes as well as periodicals and recordings.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Rangely Centennial booklet, 1955
 Library Scrapbook: 50th Anniversary, 1959
 Program of Dedication Exercises

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 370350 4980125
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Frank A. Beard, Historian
Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE January, 1978

STREET & NUMBER 242 State Street TELEPHONE (207)-289-2133

CITY OR TOWN Augusta STATE Maine

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 E. S. Feltzworth

TITLE S.H.P.O. DATE 2/9/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE <u>2/12/78</u>
ATTEST: <u>Wathrouer Cole</u>	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE <u>6/29/78</u>