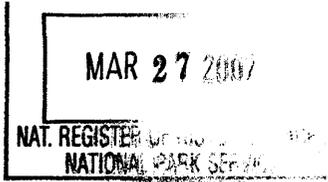


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



405

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Oroville Carnegie Library

Other names/site number Carnegie Building

2. Location

Street & number 1675 Montgomery Street N/A not for publication

City or town Oroville N/A vicinity

State California code CA county Butte code 007 zip code 95965

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 26 MAR 2007
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

California Office of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register 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): _____

[Signature] 3.8.07
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

i. Classification

Ownership of Property

Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing

Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

California Carnegie Libraries

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

ii. Function or Use

Historic Functions

Enter categories from instructions)

Education/Library

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant

iii. Description

Architectural Classification

Enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival - Late 19th and 20th Century Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
roof Composite Asphalt (Singles)
walls Stucco (Exterior)

other Concrete Stairs

Narrative Description

Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Name of Property

County and State

3. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property or National Register listing)

- 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.
- 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.)

Property is:

- 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.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Architecture

Period of Significance

1912-1956

1912

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Weeks, William Henry

Narrative Statement of Significance

Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

I. Major Bibliographical References

Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Name of Property _____

County and State _____

0. Geographical Data

Acres of Property Less than one (0.266 ac)

UTM References

Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
10	623980	4374460	3	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

1. Form Prepared By

Name/title Sharon L. Atteberry & Tom Fitzpatrick

Organization City of Oroville date 9/11/2006

Street & number 1735 Montgomery Street telephone 530-538-2405

City or town Oroville state CA zip code 95965

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

ATTACHED

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

ATTACHED

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

Name Sharon L. Atteberry

Street & number 1735 Montgomery Street telephone (530) 538-2405

City or town Oroville state CA zip code 95965

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

Oroville Carnegie Library
Butte County, California
California Carnegie Libraries Multiple Property Submission

Summary:

The Oroville Carnegie Library was constructed in 1912. The library is built of solid concrete, faced with smooth cement, has pediment and columns, which give care attention to lighting, ventilation and heating. These attributes are consistent with an architectural Classical Revival temple style. This historic 1912 building was built with spacious rooms that are provided for reading and studying purposes, and in the basement there is ample room for expansion as the city grows and more space is required in the library.

Description:

The building known as the Oroville Carnegie Library is bounded by Montgomery Street, Miner's Alley, and Oak Street. The Oroville Carnegie Library building is a good architectural example of the Classical Revival style. The building is a white, rectangular in plan building. It features a level asphalt shingle roof, Greek style pediment and cornice emphasized by a decorative frieze, and a temple front with a triangular pediment above the entablature. The Classical Revival temple style as represented in the Oroville Carnegie library building is small, but achieves a monumental effect for its size. Symmetrical, with few angles or projections, its roof lines are generally level, or slightly hipped, and mostly unadorned. Greek orders are used with a pediment portico.

The building is two stories and has stairs leading to the entry way. The building is situated in the front portion of the lot and has Soroptimist Park located behind it. The front of the building has decorative matured landscaping. The building's cement construction is softened by the landscaping and the scenic Soroptimist Park with tall old maple, magnolia and other shade trees. The windows come in pairs and are on both sides of the portico. Fenestration consists primarily of double-hung windows under a transom, and casement windows with transoms. The basement entrance is adjacent to the main stairs.

The north façade facing the municipal parking lot is the entry way into and out of the building. The east façade faces Oroville City Hall. The West façade faces the residential portion of downtown Oroville. The south façade is the back of the building and it is adjacent to the Soroptimist Park

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Oroville Carnegie Library
Butte County, California
California Carnegie Libraries Multiple Property Listing

Summary

The Oroville Carnegie Library meets the National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Submission California Carnegie Libraries within the context of "Carnegie Library Development in California and the Architecture It Produced, 1899-1921." The library is eligible at the local level of significance under Criterion A, in the area of social history and Criterion C, in the area of architecture.

Significance

Andrew Carnegie and the Carnegie Corporation provided funding for 1,681 public library buildings in 1,412 U.S. communities between 1889 and 1923. This philanthropy had a great impact on the growth of public library development in the United States. Free public libraries supported by local taxation had begun with Boston in 1849 and slowly spread throughout the country. Mr. Carnegie also attached two conditions to his offer of money for a public library building – the local community had to provide a suitable site and formally agree to continuously support the library through local tax funds.

Oroville Carnegie Library is one of the thirty-six Temple Style Classical Revival California Carnegies completed between 1903 and 1915 and one of the eighteen still standing today. Oroville's library history dates back to an 1859 early mining town library, it was one of the few to survive and be listed in the 1876 national survey; also listed were Placerville, Nevada City, and Knights Ferry. It was listed as a "ladies' library," and it was through the ladies influences that Senator George Perkins donated a downtown office building for library use, and in 1905, Senator George Perkins then donated the property. In the year 1907 the library was then deeded to the city, which had incorporated just the year before a Carnegie grant for \$10,000 was received in 1911. William Weeks, noted for his Carnegie architecture as well as for other public and private structures, designed the building and Frank Sullivan constructed it.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Oroville Carnegie Library
Butte County, California
California Carnegie Libraries Multiple Property Listing

In Oroville, California, the Carnegie was designed by architect William Henry Weeks. He designed twenty-two Carnegies. In addition to being numerous, the Carnegie libraries of William H. Weeks, built between 1902 and 1921, span nearly the entire Carnegie period. From 1906 through 1911 Weeks designed eight Classical Revival Carnegies, of which seven were the temple style, and one Spanish Revival building.

Eighteen of the twenty-two Weeks' Carnegies are still standing. Six are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Nine of his Classical Revival libraries are extant, including all seven of his "temple style" buildings, pedimented and columned, mostly of brick with quoins. As a group, these are the familiar "look-alike Carnegies": Gilroy, Paso Robles, Livermore, Lompoc, Richmond, Oroville, and Roseville.

An additional \$1,000 was provided for the furniture and other needed supplies. Oroville's new library was then opened in 1912. The Oroville Carnegie library still standing today is now vacant, but it is still an important contributor to Oroville's Montgomery Streets downtown civic buildings. Oroville's Carnegie library isn't the only one still standing in our area in fact all four Butte County municipalities incorporated by 1910 – Biggs, Chico, Gridley and Oroville – constructed library buildings with Carnegie assistance, and all four stand today. The library is currently in the process of being renovated in order to accommodate ADA requirements. The library, in the near future, will again be open to the public.

A 1937 WPA restoration primarily affected the interior; further interior changes have been made to accommodate civic use. The WPA was the Works Progress Administration, later Works Projects Administration, was created in May 1935 by Presidential order. It was the largest and most comprehensive New Deal agency. It was a "make work" program that provided jobs and income to the unemployed during the Great Depression.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Oroville Carnegie Library
Butte County, California
California Carnegie Libraries Multiple Property Listing

Bibliography

Lenhoff, James and Donna. Images of America, Oroville, California. San Francisco: Arcadia Publishing, 2001.

Bobinski, George S. Carnegie Libraries: Their History and Impact on American Public Library Development. American Library Association, 1969.

"California Carnegie Libraries." National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, December 10, 1990.

Jones, Theodore. Carnegie Libraries Across America: A Public Legacy. John Wiley & Sons, 1997.

Van Slyck, Abigail A. Free to All: Carnegie Libraries and American Culture, 1890-1920. University of Chicago Press 1996.

Skehan, Pat and Bernie and Wang, Chao Nian: To the Carnegie Library of California. <http://www.andrewcarnegie.cc/> (accessed August 8, 2006).

May 2, 1911 Oroville Board of Trustees approved resolution authorizing funds to accept grant from Andrew Carnegie.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1
10 1

Oroville Carnegie Library
Butte County, California
California Carnegie Libraries Multiple Property Listing

Geographical Data

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION
Assessor's Parcel # 012-023-003

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

This is the lot historically associated with the Oroville Carnegie Library.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Photographs Page 1

Oroville Carnegie Library
Butte County, California
California Carnegie Libraries Multiple Property Submission

The following information (#1-5) applies to each photograph submitted with the nomination:

1. Oroville Carnegie Library
California Carnegie Libraries Multiple Property Submission
2. Butte County, CA
3. Tom Fitzpatrick
4. 02-05-2007
5. City of Oroville

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_1.tif

Description: Looking from West side of building from street level west towards the roof of Carnegie Library

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_2.tif

Description: Description: Looking at architecture on roofline of southeast corner of building.

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_3.tif

Description: Description: Looking at front entrance of Carnegie from the West side of building.

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_4.tif

Description: Description: Looking at front entrance of Carnegie.

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_5.tif

Description: Description: Looking at front entrance of the Carnegie Building.

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_6.tif

Description: Looking at front of Carnegie Building on the West side corner towards Eastside corner of building.

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_7.tif

Description: Looking at roof of Carnegie Library on East side of building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs Page 2

Oroville Carnegie Library
Butte County, California
California Carnegie Libraries Multiple Property Submission

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_8.tif

Description: Looking at roof of Carnegie Library on East side of building.

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_9.tif

Description: Looking at window sequence on East side of building

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_10.tif

Description: Looking at window sequence on South side of building

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_11.tif

Description: Looking at window sequence on South side towards the east side of building

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_12.tif

Description: Looking at window sequence on South side towards the North

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_13.tif

Description: Looking at window sequence on West side corner towards East side corner of building

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_14.tif

Description: Looking at window sequence on West side towards the South

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_15.tif

Description: Looking at windows near sidewalk on the East side of the building

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_16.tif

Description: Looking at windows on the South side of the Carnegie Library

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_17.tif

Description: Looking directly South from across the street

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_18.tif

Description: Looking north from Soroptimist Park

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs Page 3

Oroville Carnegie Library
Butte County, California
California Carnegie Libraries Multiple Property Submission

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_19.tif

Description: Looking northwest from Soroptimist Park.

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_20.tif

Description: Looking southwest from across the street

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_21.tif

Description: Looking Southwest from across the street

Photo: CA_OrovilleCarnegieLibrary_ButteCounty_22.tif

Description: Looking West towards roof of Carnegie Library

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Maps

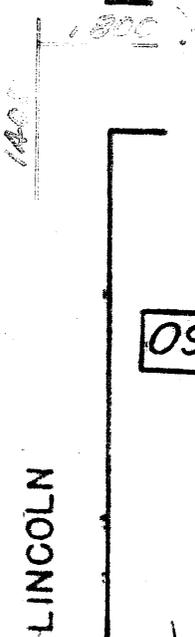
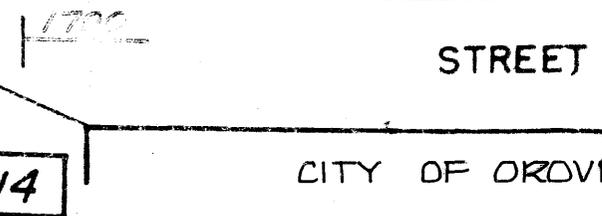
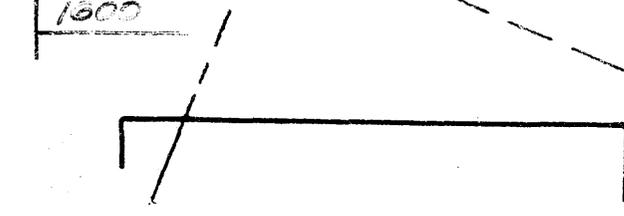
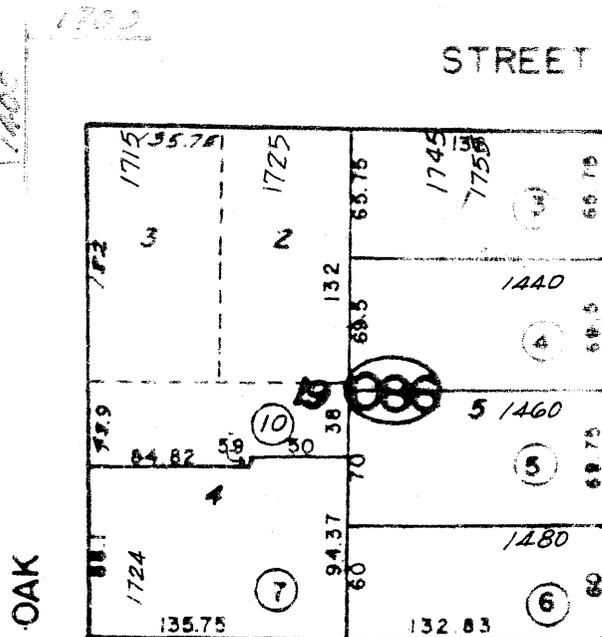
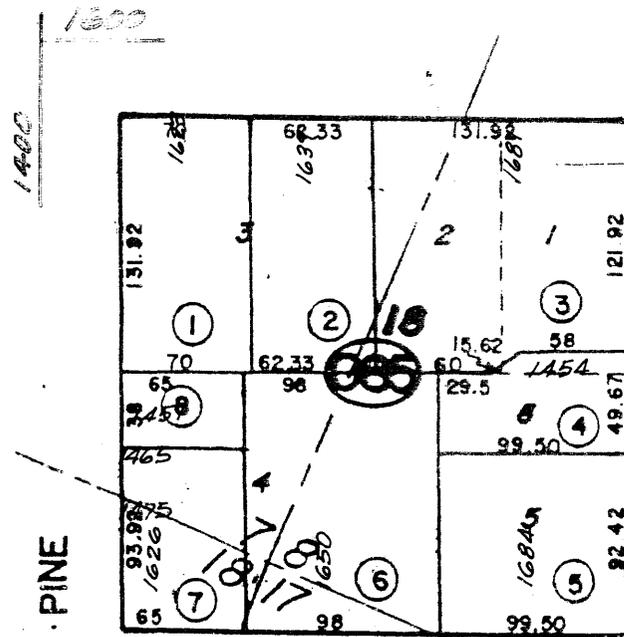
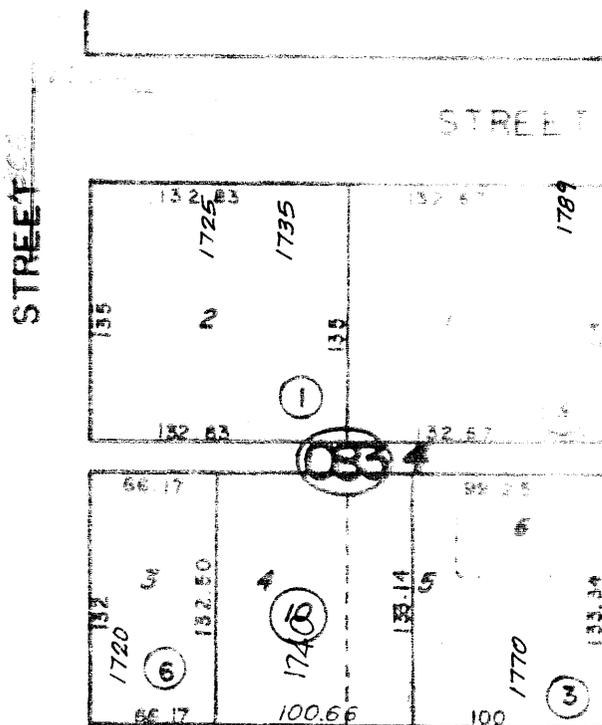
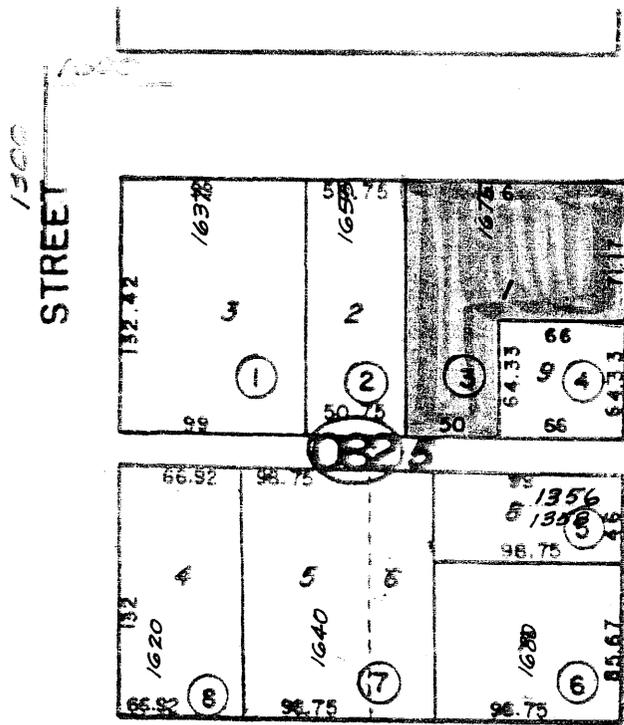
Oroville Carnegie Library
Butte County, California
California Carnegie Libraries Multiple Property Listing

Sketch Map



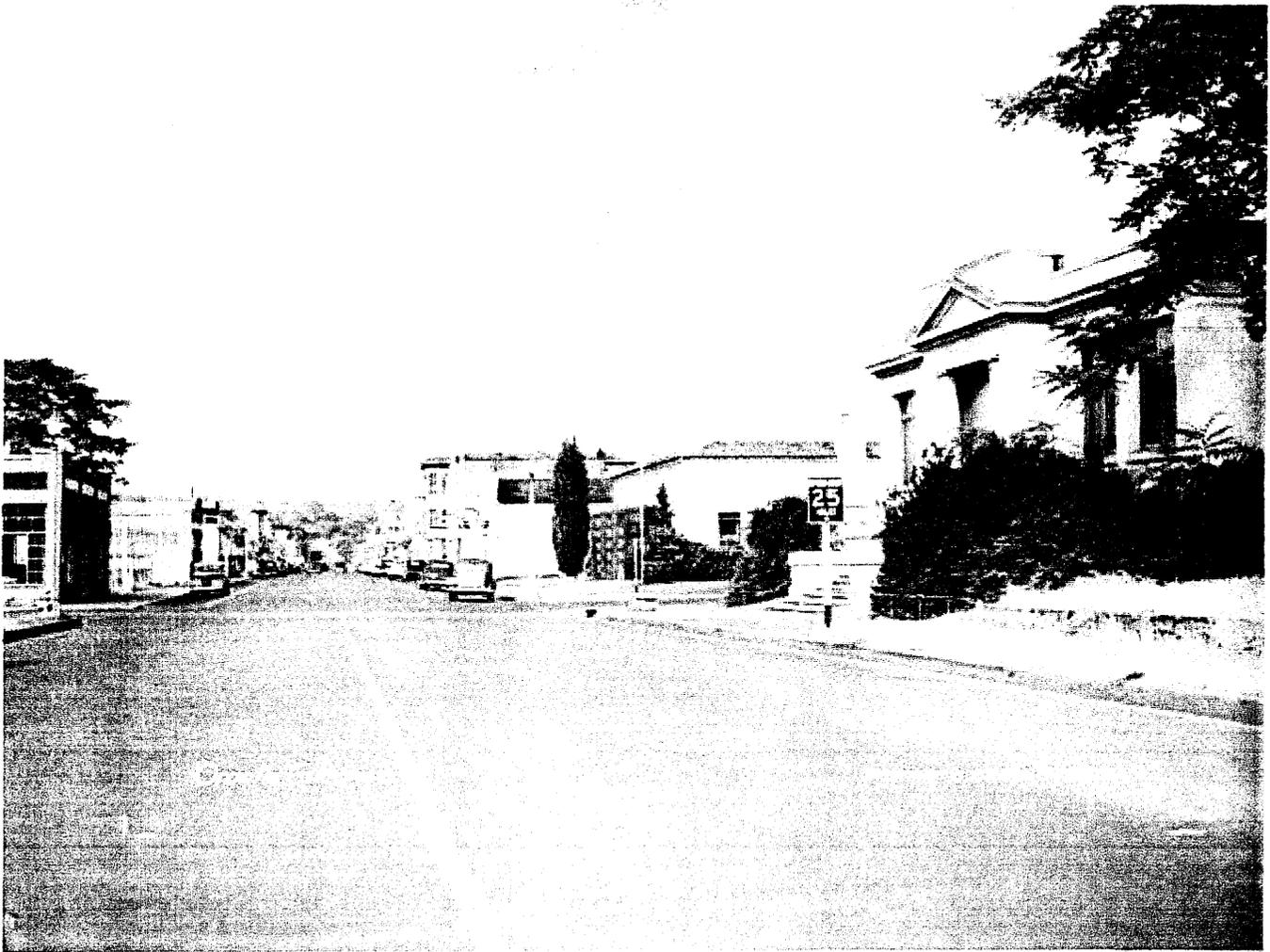
N. R. 4E.- M. D. B. & M.

12-08



CITY OF OROVILLE

Oroville Carnegie Library, Oroville, Butte County, CA



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Oroville Carnegie Library, Oroville, butte County, CA



A photo taken in 1914 shows men and equipment busy paving Oroville's streets. Workers spread the asphalt by hand while the tractor waits to press it down. Note the beautiful trees the townspeople preserved at their residences, many of which survive to this day.



The Carnegie Memorial Library was a handsome addition to the town's architecture when constructed in 1912. Although succeeded by a larger facility, the building is still maintained by the city for other civic purposes.