MP 2665

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# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. 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.

1. Name of Property	nais, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.		
Historic name O'Neill Carnegie Library			
Other names/site number Grattan Towns	hip Library, HT13-005		
Name of related multiple property listing			
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)			
2. Location			
Street & Number 601 East Douglas Stree	et		
City or town O'Neill	State Nebraska County Holt		
Not for publication [] Vicinity []			
3. State/Federal Agency Certification			
nomination [] request for determination of e the National Register of Historic Places and mee	SHPO/Director 5/22/18 Date		
In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does not			
Signature of Commenting Official	Date		
Title	State of Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		
4. National Park Service Certification			
<ul> <li>I, hereby, certify that this property is:</li> <li>[1] entered in the National Register.</li> <li>[2] determined eligible for the National Register</li> <li>[3] determined not eligible for the National</li> <li>[4] removed from the National Register.</li> </ul>	-		

[] other, (explain):

Signature of Keeper 1pz

7.13.2018

**Date of Action** 

	)-900			OMB No. 1024-001	
D'Neill Carnegie Library				ounty, Nebraska	
lame of F	Property		County and State		
. Class	ification				
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)		Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)		
[]	Private		[X]	Building(s)	
[X]	Public-local		[]	District	
[]	Public-state		()	Site	
[]	Public-federal		[]	Structure	
			n	Object	
umber	of Resources withi	n Property (Do not include previo		•	
		Contributing N	Noncontributing		
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O'Neill Carnegie Library Name of Property Holt County, Nebraska County and State

# Description

**Summary Paragraph** (Briefly describe the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

The O'Neill Carnegie Library is in the Prairie School style with one story over a raised basement. It consists of red brick with limestone window sills, detailing, and belt course above the first floor windows. The building retains its historic windows with aluminum exterior storms. The historic entrance is centered on the primary (north) façade and is flanked by groupings of double-hung windows. The front entrance protrudes from the façade, the original door has been replaced, and a non-original awning covers the opening. Above the entrance 'Public Library' is etched into a limestone sign banner. To the rear of the library is a 1994 addition, which is roughly two times the size of the original library and is one story in height. The addition contains a similar brick façade, limestone detailing window openings, and exposed rafter tails, similar to the original. The interior of the original library retains much of its historic integrity with open floor plan, original windows and woodwork, plaster walls and ceiling, and tile flooring in the entry. The interior of the addition is primarily open space for book shelving and also includes staff offices, restrooms, elevator, and the circulation desk.

The original portion of the O'Neill Carnegie Library retains a large portion of its integrity. Both the exterior looks much as they did when it was opened in 1914. The 1994 addition does detract from the architectural significance of the library, but is not visible from the primary elevation and was constructed in such a way as to compliment, not detract, from the original building. The original clay tile roof has been replaced with asphalt shingles, but the roof line and pitch remain unaltered.

**Narrative Description (**Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable.)

The O'Neill Carnegie Library is located in O'Neill (2010 pop. 3705) in Holt County, Nebraska. O'Neill is located at the intersection of US Highway 20/275 and US Highway 281 in central Holt County in northeast Nebraska. O'Neill is the Holt County seat and sits 40 miles south of the South Dakota border and 120 miles west of Sioux City, Iowa. The library in on the east side of town, situated on the south side of Douglas Street (US Hwy 20/275), the major east-west thoroughfare in O'Neill. West of the library – toward the town center – is commercial development; residential development is to the east.

The library building sets back from the road with a grass lawn in front with light landscaping along the front façade; a single tree sets in the northwest corner of the parcel. A sidewalk runs along the north side of the parcel, with a side walk from the north running south to the front entrance of the library. A flag poles sits on the west side of the lawn. Along the west side of the building there is light landscaping, a sidewalk, and pull-in parking for library guests; parking is also available on the southern side of the building along the alleyway. There is no east lawn to speak of, as there is no more a dozen feet between the original building and the property line. HVAC and utility systems are east of the building.

### Exterior

The primary façade faces north. The main entrance projects out from the façade up to the limestone belt course; two original square windows are fixed above the protruding entrance. Five concrete steps lead up to the main entrance and are flanked with brick walls capped with concrete cap. Each side of the steps contain black pipe railings, later additions to the building. Above the door, the transom has been covered with wood and intersected by a metal awning covering the front entrance. The original door has been replaced with an aluminum and glass two-light replacement. Above the awning and outside of the transom opening are two plain limestone squares underneath a limestone belt course. Between the belt course and the top of the protruding entrance is a limestone sign banner inscribed 'Public Library.' Each side of the protruding entrance is identical: a small original double-hung with aluminum exterior storm over a limestone sill with bracketed corners, and the limestone belt course on the front wrapping around until stopping just shy of the main façade. Two small unembellished limestone squares are above the belt course, similar to the front. A belt course of vertical bricks wraps the entire building distinguishing where the basement ceiling meets the elevated first floor.

O'Neill Carnegie Library

Name of Property

# Holt County, Nebraska County and State

The main façade on each side of the entrance are identical. The concrete foundation is visible at ground level with three short single-light double-hung windows, with the center window being twice as wide as the side windows. On the main floor a limestone sill runs the length of the four windows, with limestone brackets under the sill at the edges and between the window groupings. Above the windows is a limestone belt course with brackets outside of and between the windows. Between the belt course and the roofline are square transoms divided into eight lights with horizontal, vertical, and diagonal muntins. All of the original windows remain and most are covered by exterior aluminum storms. In each of the upper corners are large limestone square with a depiction of an open-bottom wreath. Dark brown downspouts run along the each side of the front façade. While not original to the building, an early photograph of the building shows downspouts on the sides (Figure 1) indicating that the building was originally equipped with eaves troughs and downspouts.

The east and west facades are identical with three one-over-one double-hung windows at the basement level and three larger one-over-one double-hung windows at the main level. The brick and limestone brick courses, the limestone sills detailing, and the first story transoms are consistent with what appears on the front of the building. On the southern end of both the east and west elevation are downspouts that are original to the building.



Figure 1: O'Neill Carnegie Library, March 1914 (The Frontier, April 2, 1914)

On the exterior, the 1994 addition adjoins the original library below the original roofline on the south façade. The small portion of the original south façade that is visible shows the large, embellished limestone squares in each corner, a single transom on each side remains open, and brick matching the addition infilled in the visible window openings. The original south façade is partially intact on the interior of the building.

The addition largely compliments, rather than detracts, from the original building as it carefully mimics the original in materials and design and, while it covers a large footprint, does not extend over or outside of the Carnegie library. The brick is a similar color and laid in a similar pattern, save for below the limestone belt course where the two buildings connect. There the new brick is laid vertically and 'The Merlin C. Simpson Addition, O'NEILL PUBLIC LIBRARY' is affixed to the façade, clearly delineating the new from the original. Modern can lighting fixtures hang from the eave to illuminate the lettering and what is now the main entrance to the library, which is a contemporary glass and aluminum door with sidelights and transoms. The signage and entrance are recessed from the western façade of the addition, the south half of which is flush with the west façade of the original. Centered on the south half of the west façade are three short double-hung windows under a fixed window. Above the limestone belt course are transoms similar to the originals in design, but shorter in height. The limestone belt course wraps around the entire addition with detailed brackets at each window and door opening.

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# O'Neill Carnegie Library Name of Property

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The rear of the addition has a centered window unit similar to that on the west façade. However, much like the front of the original library, the middle window opening is wider. In this case, the middle window consists of two narrow double-hung windows making the opening a third, rather than twice, the width of the single openings. The back of the building has three safety lights illuminating the parking area and downspouts on the outer third of the façade.

The addition's east façade is flush with original building and contains a ramp leading to a secondary access point at the addition's midway point. The southern half of the façade contains a window grouping identical to the south elevation, and the northern half has two small double hung windows, without the upper fixed window and transoms, that provide light and ventilation to interior office spaces. A downspout runs between the two small windows.

The Carnegie library originally had a clay tile hipped (ridge) roof with a low pitch and exposed rounded rafter tails. The tiles have been replaced with asphalt shingles, but the form and pitch remain unaltered and the rafter tails continue to be exposed. The addition mimics the original in roof design, including a hipped (ridge) form, a low pitch, and exposed rafter tails. The L-Shaped addition has a ridge running south from the original building to a ridge running east-west across the southern end of the addition.

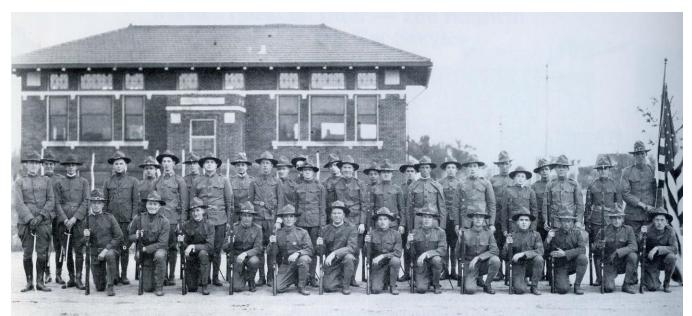


Figure 2: O'Neill's Home Guards in front of Carnegie Library; 1918 (A Piece of Emerald)

### Interior

Immediately inside the historic Carnegie library entrance is the original tile floor and split-level staircase. The front door has been replaced but the original jamb and crosshatched awning transom remain. The stairs and floors have been covered in carpet while the original lathe and plaster walls and ceilings remain. The main floor is a single open room with non-original lighting and ceiling fans. At the center of the south wall is a wide opening leading to an open staircase down in to the 1994 addition. Above the stairwell are two enclosed transom openings indicating that the stairs to the addition utilized an existing opening where two windows were originally located. On each side of the central opening are window openings identical to those on the front of the building. However, due to the addition, only outside transom on each side has been left open while the other openings have been infilled; the inside single window on the east side is also open as it overlooks the circulation desk.

The basement is divided into two rooms on the east and west ends of the building, with a hallway connecting them. Off of the south side of the hall there is a storage closet and small rest room; on the north is the original mechanical room. All entries retain their original hardwood two-panel doors and hardware; the bottom half of the plaster walls are covered with

# O'Neill Carnegie Library Name of Property

Holt County, Nebraska County and State

wood paneling. The large rooms are used for book racks and computer stations; the west room retains it plaster ceiling while the east room's ceiling is covered with square, one-foot acoustic tiles. The east room is the larger of the two and was likely the one referred to as "to be used for public meetings, such as city council and township meetings."<sup>1</sup> Out the back of the east room an opening leads to the elevator and the stair well leading up into the addition.

The interior of the addition is primarily open space for book shelving and also includes staff offices, restrooms, elevator, and the circulation desk. The west side of the addition houses the elevator and restrooms (north) and a conference room (south) separated by what is now the main entrance. The northeast section contains staff offices and the circulation desk. The remaining space is open to allow for book racks. Above the entrance and circulation desk the ceiling has an extended ceiling height with the ceiling dropping several feet along the south half of the addition to allow for duct work and the hipped roof line.

Despite the large addition in the rear, the O'Neill Carnegie Library retains sufficient integrity to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for its association with Carnegie Libraries in Nebraska. The library retains a high level of integrity as it applies to design, location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Due to its size and recent date of construction, the addition precludes the O'Neill Carnegie Library for being considered eligible under Criterion C: Architecture.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> S.J. Weekes, "O'Neill Public Library" *The Frontier* (O'Neill, NE) April 2, 1914.

# United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form  ${\tt NPS \ Form \ 10-900}$ 

### O'Neill Carnegie Library

Name of Property

# 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.
- 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.
  - A reconstructed building, object, or
- **E** structure.
- **F** A commemorative property.
- **G** Less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Holt County, Nebraska County and State

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1914-1968

### **Significant Dates**

N/A

#### **Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

# N/A

### **Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Joseph W. Salmon (architect)

Midwest Construction Company (builder)

Jack Gardner (architect - 1994 add.)

Clearwater Elevator Company (builder – 1994 add.)

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (**Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

In accordance with the registration requirements of the *Nebraska's Carnegie Libraries, 1902-1922* multiple-property document, the O'Neill Carnegie Library is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. Locally significant, the O'Neill Carnegie Library was originally constructed to meet the educational demands of Grattan Township, was a supplemental resource for furthering one's education – to young and old alike – and was subsequently expanded in 1994 to meet the continued demand of the library's materials and use. The period of significance runs from 1914 to 1968; the date of the library opening to fifty years prior to nomination.

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O'Neill Carnegie Library

Name of Property

Holt County, Nebraska County and State

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

At the start of the 1910s, O'Neill was the seat of Holt County, had a population over 2,000, was served by two railroads – the Chicago & Northwestern and the Chicago, Burlington, & Quincy – contained a number of banks, general stores, churches, and hotels.<sup>2</sup> Despite the rather sizeable population and considerable business activity, O'Neill was believed to be one of three towns of their size in the state lacking a public library.<sup>3</sup> The amount of a Carnegie library grant largely depended on the population of the applying community leading the Grattan Township, within which O'Neill is located, to apply for the Carnegie grant. "The voters and tax payers of Grattan Township" were called to attend the township's annual meeting held on March 5, 1912 at the Holt County Courthouse in O'Neill.<sup>4</sup> Supporters of the three-mill levy believed that if successful in their application to Andrew Carnegie, they could expect a donation of \$15,000. Despite some opposition, the township passed the by a vote of 91 to 25.<sup>5</sup> By the end of 1912, the three mill levy would create a balance of \$485.98 in the township's library fund.<sup>6</sup>

The township elected a Library Board of five members – Judge R.R. Dickson, Judge J.J. Harrington, S.J. Weekes, J.A. Donohoe, and O.F. Biglin – to corresponded with Carnegie and secure a donation for the public library. Staff of *The Frontier* were overly optimistic by suggesting "that work upon the library building will commence within the next four months."<sup>7</sup> Biglin was selected as Committee Chair and Donohoe as secretary.<sup>8</sup> On May 12 Carnegie approved a \$10,000 donation to the Grattan Township.<sup>9</sup> The donation was to be used exclusively for the erection of the building – not for the purchase of books or furniture – and the Board immediately started reaching out to architects for prospective plans.<sup>10</sup> Plans submitted by Joseph W. Salmon were selected. Salmon worked primarily in Lincoln but also designed a library in Friend and the Crete Carnegie Library.<sup>11</sup> The Library Board selected to site the library on the Neil Brennan lots; whether these lots were sold to the Board or donated by Brennan is unclear and the first deed on record is in Biglin's name.<sup>12</sup>

Despite *The Frontier's* optimism of having the library built before autumn, the donation was not release to the Library Board until Carnegie approved the proposed plans near the end of November. The news of the approval was followed by a description of the future library:

"The building will be 27 feet 4 inches x 60 feet, one story and basement. Most of the basement will be above ground so that the building will be about the height of the ordinary two story building. It will be heated by steam and will be modern throughout. The building will be sixty feet long, facing Douglas street, so that it will present a very attractive appearance on that street, and will add much to the attractiveness of east Douglas street."<sup>13</sup>

Not only was the impending library expected to improve O'Neill aesthetically, but was also a contributing factor – along with the construction of a new \$50,000 school, road improvements, and multiple new residences and businesses, plus a \$45,000 hotel – in the organization of a local Commercial Club.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Oliver B. Pollack, A State of Readers: Nebraska's Carnegie Libraries (Lincoln, NE: J&L Lee, 2005), 112.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "Will Have a Library" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), March 7, 1912.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "Notice" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), February 29, 1912.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Will Have a Library" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), March 7, 1912.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> "Supervisors Proceedings" Atkinson Graphic (Atkinson, NE), March 21, 1913.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> "Local Matters" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), April 18, 1912.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> "Local Matters" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), May 2, 1912.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> George S. Bobinski, Carnegie Libraries: Their History and Impact on American Public Library Development (Chicago, IL: American Library Association, 1969), 230.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> "Local Matters" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), May 23, 1912.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Pollack, 53-4.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> "Local and Personal" Holt County Independent (O'Neill, NE), August 2, 1912. "Local and Personal" Holt County Independent (O'Neill, NE), September 27, 1912. Holt County (NE) Register of Deeds, Warranty Deed, Block 24, Lots 7 & 8, Book 100, Page 315, filed October 9, 1918.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> "Local Matters" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), December 5, 1912.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> "O'Neill Organizes Commercial Club" *Omaha Bee* (Omaha, NE), May 19, 1913. "O'Neill to have New School House, Hotel and Public Library," *Omaha Bee* (Omaha, NE), April 25, 1913.

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Name of Property

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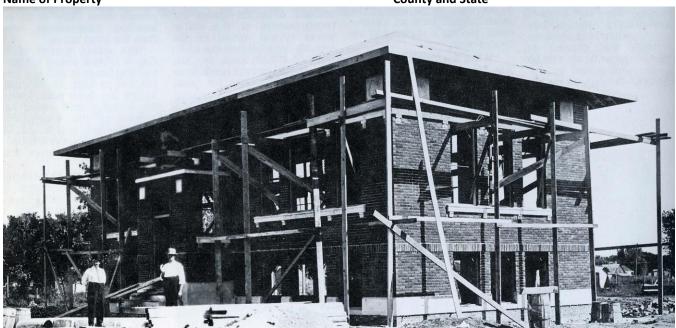


Figure 3: O'Neill Carnegie Library under construction, 1913 (A Piece of Emerald)

A contract was awarded to the Mid-West Construction Company of Lincoln on April 23, 1913 to build the new library. There is some contention whether the full amount of the donation was awarded as the *Holt County Independent* reported a contract amount of \$10,000 while *The Frontier* and *The* Bee both state a total amount of \$9,850; no mention is made of the remaining donation amount of \$150.<sup>15</sup> Mid-West Construction also secured the contract to construct O'Neill's new school building with a bid of \$41,171 which was let the same day as the library. Whether or not the company concurrently building both the school and library contributed to the latter's delayed opening is unclear. The library was, for the second year in a row, anticipated to be ready by September 1, a lofty expectation that for reasons undetermined the company failed to meet.<sup>16</sup>

The excavation for the library basement was completed in early June and, unfortunately, updates on the construction of the library were sporadic, at best.<sup>17</sup> Salmon visited the job site in August and by October the tile roof was complete, completely enclosing "one of the complete buildings in the state, modern in every respect the building and a credit to Grattan and O'Neill."<sup>18</sup> Christmas morning 1913 brought exciting reports of the library possibly being finished within ten days, however, keys were not handed over to the Library Board until early February and citizens of O'Neill and Grattan Township were urged to give what they could to help stock the new library with books.<sup>19</sup> Before the library could be open to the public the Board addressed staffing issues. The Library Board voted Miss Mayme Coffey to be O'Neill's first librarian while her father, Mr. John Coffey, was elected as library janitor. The grounds of the library were improved as opening approached as the lawn was seeded and several large elms trees were planted in April.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> "Library Contract Let" Holt County Independent (O'Neill, NE), April 25, 1913. The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), April 24, 1913. "O'Neill to have New School House, Hotel and Public Library," Omaha Bee (Omaha, NE), April 25, 1913.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> "Contract Let For New School House" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), April 24, 1913.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> "Local and Personal" Holt County Independent (O'Neill, NE), June 6, 1913.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> "Local and Personal" Holt County Independent (O'Neill, NE), August 29, 1913. "Local Matters" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), October 2, 1913.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> "Local Matters" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), December 25, 1913. "Local Matters" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), January 29, 1914.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> "Local Matters" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), March 19, 1914. "Local Matters" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), January 29, 1914. "Local Matters" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), April 23, 1914. U.S. Census Bureau, All Persons, 1910, https://records.myheritagelibraryedition.com/research/record-10132-49830079/john-coffey-in-1910-united-statesfederal-census (accessed March 16, 2018).

#### O'Neill Carnegie Library

#### Name of Property

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Citizens of O'Neill and Grattan Township were invited to attend – and encouraged to get their membership card – at the grand opening of the O'Neill Carnegie Library on evening of Friday, June 12, 1914. The opening was originally scheduled to run from 8:00pm to 10:00pm, but a record of the festivities has it extending until 11:00pm, indicating a strong turnout for the event. The opening was accompanied by music provided by the Strolier Orchestra and refreshments served by three of the Library Board members' wives – Mrs. Dickson, Mrs. Donahoe, and Mrs. Weekes.<sup>21</sup> The library was open two days each week, "which is customary in towns of this size." Hours for the library were established as Wednesday from 1:00pm to 5:00pm and Saturday from 10am to 5:00pm.<sup>22</sup>



Figure 4: O'Neill Carnegie Library, c.1915 (Nebraska Library Commission)

In 1986 the Friends of the Library group was formed to provide financial and volunteer support to the O'Neill Carnegie Library. In 1992 the Friends launched "Vision 2000" to raise money for an addition to the library. Community support for the library was so strong that the needed amount was quickly raised and ground was broken on the \$380,000 addition on Saturday, April 3, 1993. Similar to the opening of the Carnegie library, the groundbreaking was accompanied by music, this time provided by the O'Neill Community Band and the O'Neill High School Barbershop Quartet.<sup>23</sup> The addition was opened on Saturday, July 23, 1994, which was attended by Governor Ben Nelson. The library addition was named in honor of former O'Neill resident Merlin C. Simpson who donated \$125,000 to the project.<sup>24</sup>

Section F, page 3 of the National Register Multiple Property Submission (MPS) "Nebraska Carnegie Libraries, 1902-1922" states:

To be eligible under Criterion A, a Carnegie library building must have been constructed between the period of 1902 and 1922, demonstrate significance to its community in the areas of education or social history. The building should also maintain its integrity in the areas of architecture, location and setting. Libraries nominated under Criterion A are eligible for local, state or national significance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> "Local Matters" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), June 11, 1914. "Local and Personal" Holt County Independent (O'Neill, NE), June 12, 1914. "New Library Opens" Holt County Independent (O'Neill, NE), June 19, 1914.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> "O'Neill Public Library" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), April 2, 1914.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> "Library friends mark milestone" Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk, NE), April 5, 1993.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> "Governor: Library Addition for Kids" The Frontier and Holt County Independent (O'Neill, NE), July 28, 1994.

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Name of Property

# Holt County, Nebraska County and State

Since its opening, the O'Neill Carnegie Library has been a key resource for the people of O'Neill and Grattan Township wishing to educate themselves or relax with a book in hand. The night of its opening "a large number...signed for and carried home some of the books." The 1915 Library Report cited issues with "insufficient funds in the matter of purchasing the necessary volumes to satisfy reading demands. The Public quite generally are patronizing the Library." The following year 800 volumes were purchased. The library has played a role in encourage summer reading for school-aged children. One example, during the summer of 1948, the library received 75 volumes on loan from the Nebraska Library Commission; 38 were checked out on the day of their arrival proving the popularity of the program. The Friends of the Library, formed in 1986, was created to help support through volunteers to increase hours of operation to meet public demand for library usage. In the years following its formation, the circulation of library materials more than doubled. The large 1994 addition, was built in response of a circulation that more than doubled since the mid-80s and a collection that had increased by one-third.<sup>25</sup>

The O'Neill Carnegie Library retains sufficient levels of integrity in the areas described above and has been a center of continued educational development for the people of O'Neill and Grattan Township since its opening in 1914.

	\$3000 22	Dec 15 th, 191
1	To Carnigie Lihr	ang Board
	This is to Continue that the 1	Widnest leaustruction le
	Contractore for the Library Qu	ilding of Jown of Gratte
	Const. A Halt State of n	unaster is entitled to & payment (
	Three Thousand of t	inal Payment ) - DOLLARS
	by the terms of Contract.	IN Salura
	Contract Price \$ 100005	Joseph 11: Damas
	Extra Work \$	. 0
	Total Am't issued, 3 1000 Remar	*ks:
	Balance \$ 00000	

Figure 5: Authorization of payment to Midwest Construction Company, December 15, 1913 (O'Neill Carnegie Library).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> "New Library Opens" Holt County Independent (O'Neill, NE), June 19, 1914. Pollack, 113. Bernadette Brennan, "Library News" The Frontier (O'Neill, NE), June 3, 1948. "Library friends mark milestone" Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk, NE), April 5, 1993. "Governor: Library Addition for Kids" The Frontier and Holt County Independent (O'Neill, NE), July 28, 1994. "Library addition finished; dedication ceremony set" Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk, NE), July 16, 1994.

OMB No. 1024-0018

#### O'Neill Carnegie Library

Name of Property

Holt County, Nebraska County and State

### 9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography (Insert bibliography here - cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form.)

#### Newspapers

Atkinson Graphic. Atkinson, NE: 1913.

*The Frontier.* O'Neill, NE: 1912, 1913, 1914, 1948.

The Frontier and Holt County Independent. O'Neill, NE: 1994.

Holt County Independent. O'Neill, NE: 1912, 1913, 1914.

Norfolk Daily News. Norfolk, NE: 1993, 1994.

Omaha Bee. Omaha, NE: 1913.

#### Books

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

McCulloh, Burns E. A Piece of Emerald: O'Neill – Nebraska's Irish Capital; The First One Hundred Years, 1874-1974. O'Neill, NE: Miles Publishing Company, 1974.

Pollack, Oliver B. A State of Readers: Nebraska's Carnegie Libraries. Lincoln, NE: J&L Lee, 2005.

#### **Government Records & Websites**

Holt County (NE) Register of Deeds, Warranty Deed, Block 24, Lots 7 & 8, Book 100, Page 315, filed October 9, 1918.

Nebraska Library Commission, www.nlc.state.ne.us/history/carnegie/

U.S. Census Bureau, www.myheritage.com.

#### Previous documentation on file (NPS): Primary location of additional data: preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested) X State Historic Preservation Office previously listed in the National Register Other State agency previously determined eligible by the National Register Federal agency designated a National Historic Landmark Local government recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # University recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # X Other (Name of repository) recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # O'Neill Carnegie Library Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): HT13-005 **10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than 1 acre

USGS Quadrangle O'Neill

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form  ${\tt NPS \ Form \ 10-900}$ 

OMB No. 1024-0018

O'Neill Carnegie Library		ary	Holt County, Nebraska		
Name of	Property		County and State		
Latitud	e/Longitud	e Coordinates			
	Datum if otl	ner than WGS84:			
1.	Latitude	42°27′26.38″N	Longitude 98°38′39.80″W		
2.	Latitude		Longitude		
3.	Latitude		Longitude		
4.	Latitude		Longitude	_	

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The O'Neill Carnegie Library sites on a double lot at the southeast corner of the intersection of East Douglas Street (US Hwy 20) and South 6<sup>th</sup> Street. The parcel's south boundary is delineated by an alley that runs east to west. The east boundary is adjacent to a private residence. The parcel is roughly 90 feet wide by 170 feet deep.

### Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes all the property historically associated with the O'Neill Carnegie Library.

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title David L. Calease / National Register Coordinator					
organization	Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office	date	Mar	ch 30, 2018	
street & number 1500 R Street		telepho	one	402-471-4775	
city or town	Lincoln	state	NE	zip code	68508
email	David.Calease@nebraska.gov				

# **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO for any additional items.)

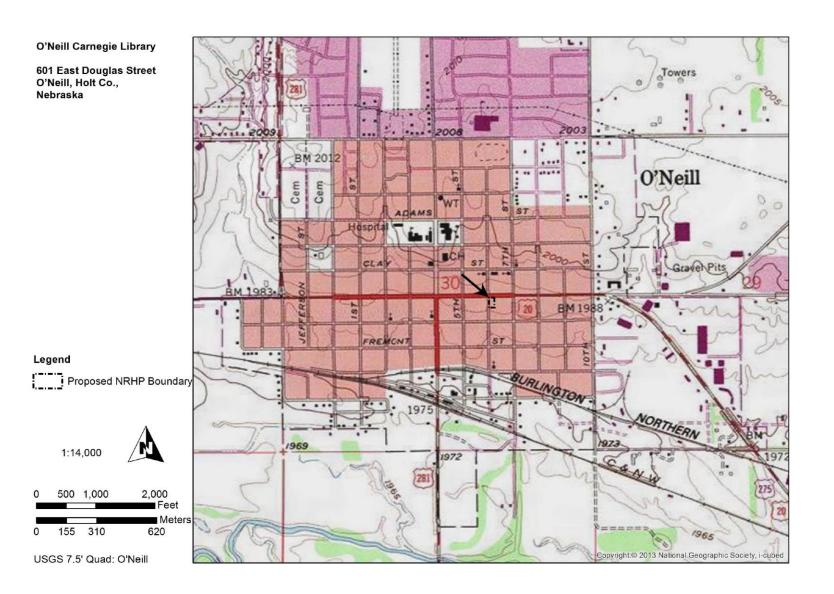
National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 United States Department of the Interior

O'Neill Carnegie Library

Name of Property

Holt County, Nebraska

**County and State** 



OMB No. 1024-0018

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 United States Department of the Interior

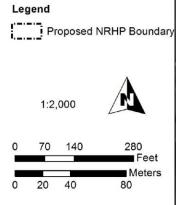
O'Neill Carnegie Library Name of Property

Holt County, Nebraska County and State



O'Neill Carnegie Library

601 East Douglas Street O'Neill, Holt Co., Nebraska



OMB No. 1024-0018

#### O'Neill Carnegie Library

#### Name of Property

# Holt County, Nebraska County and State

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### **Photo Log**

Name of Proper	ty O'Neill Carnegie Library			
City or Vicinity	O'Neill	County	Holt	State Nebraska
Photographer	David L. Calease / NeSHPO		Date Photographed	January 17, 2018

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera.

#### Photo 1. 1914 Carnegie Library, north facade; view facing south.

Photo 2. 1914 Carnegie library with 1994 addition, north & west facades; view facing southeast.

Photo 3. 1914 Carnegie library with addition, west & south façades; view facing northeast.

Photo 4. 1914 Carnegie library with 1994 addition, north & east facades; view facing southwest.

Photo 5. Connection of original building and addition, west facade; view facing east.

Photo 6. 1994 addition, south façade windows; view north.

Photo 7. 1914 Carnegie library interior, main entrance; view facing north.

Photo 8. 1914 Carnegie library interior, original windows; view facing northeast.

Photo 9. 1914 Carnegie library interior, original windows and infill; view facing southwest.

Photo 10. 1914 Carnegie library interior, basement hall; view facing west.

Photo 11. 1994 addition, interior stairs to Carnegie library; view facing north.

Photo 12. 1994 addition, interior; view southeast.

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement**: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

























#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination					
Property Name:	O'Neill Carnegie Library					
Multiple Name:	Carnegie Libraries in Nebraska MPS AD					
State & County:	NEBRASKA, Holt					
Date Rece 5/30/20		List: Date of 16th Day: 7/13/2018	Date of 45th Day: Date of Weekly List: 7/16/2018			
Reference number:	MP100002665					
Nominator:	State					
Reason For Review						
X Accept	Return	Reject7/1	3/2018 Date			
Abstract/Summary Comments:	meets the registration required building's ability to convey		e addition does not detract from the			
Recommendation/ Criteria	Accept / A					
Reviewer _ Jim Ga	abbert	Discipline	Historian			
Telephone (202)354-2275		Date				
DOCUMENTATION	I: see attached commen	ts : No see attached S	SLR : No			

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



Preserving the past. Building the future.

May 25, 2018

Jim Gabbert NPS-National Register of Historic Places 1849 C Street, NW Mail Stop 7228 Washington, DC 20240

NAT. REGISTER OF NATIONAL P

Re: O'Neill Carnegie Library, O'Neill, Holt County, NE

Dear Mr. Gabbert,

Enclosed is the complete nomination packet for the O'Neill Carnegie Library, in O'Neill, Holt County, Nebraska. The enclosed contents are as follows:

- The signed first page of the O'Neill Carnegie Library nomination;
- One (1) archival disk with the true and correct copy of the nomination for the O'Neill Carnegie Library to the National Register of Historic Places in PDF format; and
- One (1) archival disc with the photographs for the O'Neill Carnegie Library nomination.

If you have any questions regarding the submitted materials, feel free to contact me at the phone number or email address below.

Sincerely,

Red L. Calcuse

David L. Calease National Register Coordinator Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office

Phone: 402-471-4775 Fax: 402-471-3100 david.calease@nebraska.gov

Enclosures (2): 1 disk with Nomination 1 disk with National Register Photographs

> 1500 R Street Lincoln, NE 68508-1651 P: 402.471.3270 P: 800.833.6747 F: 402.471.3100 history.nebraska.gov