

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received DEC 22 1986

date entered

FEB 3 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Carnegie Library of Barnesville

and or common same

2. Location

street & number Library Street N/A not for publication

city, town Barnesville n/a vicinity of

state Georgia code 013 county Lamar code 171

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	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input 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 James R. Matthews, Jr., Mayor
City of Barnesville

street & number 109 Forsyth Street

city, town Barnesville N/A vicinity of state GA 30204

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Pike County Courthouse

city, town Zebulon state GA

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

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 Carnegie Library of Barnesville is a two story, red brick building built in a modified Georgian Style in 1910. Its balanced design includes identical wooden porticos supported by white columns on the front and rear flanked by a pair of windows, and a pair of windows on either end of the building. Marble is used for the porches, steps, and buttresses. All the windows are Palladian design, with the upper portions serving the second floor. Each window has marble trim and sills. Two one-foot wide marble bands encircle the building. Each entrance enters a foyer. Entrance doors are surrounded by leaded glass. On the ground floor is one large room currently divided by library shelving, book stacks, tables, chairs, etc. The second floor contains three rooms (a magazine room, reference/assembly room, and a storage room), and a bathroom. The original hardwood floors are covered with tile and carpeting. Heart pine paneling covers aged plaster. On the ground floor there are four original interior columns and crown molding, all of oak. Original paneled doors also remain. The original, narrow, sharply angled stairs remain at the north entrance. The building was rewired in 1962; three original light fixtures remain on the second floor. The library sits just south of the central business district adjacent to a church, a bank, and a residential area. The grounds, whose plantings are supervised by local garden clubs, include shrubs, flowers, dogwoods, and a long entrance walk made of six-sided concrete tiles. There are no outbuildings. Changes include the lowering of the ceilings, new floor coverings, modern lighting, modern paneling, air conditioning units, the removal of a ballustrade from the entrance portico and, in 1984, the replacement of the exterior columns with similar columns and the addition of a pair of new interior support columns on the first floor.

Contributing and non-contributing resources: 1 contributing building.

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"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1910 **Builder/Architect** Whitfield and King

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Statement of Significance

The Carnegie Library of Barnesville is significant in architecture as a fine example of the type of structures built in American towns with the support and guidance of Andrew Carnegie and his staff. This building was built to be a functioning library and looked the role for that era by exemplifying the Georgian style. It is also significant as a work of the architectural firm of Whitfield and King of New York City, who designed other Carnegie libraries. The library is significant in education because it represents the major advance in a town's educational horizons when the first public, free library was established. It has been Barnesville's only public library for over fifty years. It is also significant as one of only twenty-four Carnegie public libraries built in Georgia. The library is significant in social/humanitarian history because it served the community as a meeting place, a museum, a collection point for various war drives, other civic uses, and because it represents the joint efforts of a community and a national philanthropic foundation.

These areas of significance support this property's eligibility under National Register Criteria A because in the areas of education and social/humanitarian history the library is associated with events--the establishment of the town's first public library, sponsored by Andrew Carnegie--that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Barnesville's history. It is one of only twenty-four public libraries built in Georgia under the terms of Andrew Carnegie's philanthropy. It is eligible under Criteria C because in architecture it is significant for reflecting the Georgian style of architecture, with its use of symmetry, red brick, Palladian windows, and other classical details; and also for being designed by a nationally known architectural firm, Whitfield and King. Hallmark features of an early 20th century public library - large reading room, stack area, and smaller rooms for public meetings and activities - are also present. Thus it exemplifies distinctive characteristics of a type as well as the work of a master with high artistic values and training. It is also a landmark historic building in the small county seat of Barnesville.

Contributing Resources: 1 building.

Historical Narrative

The Carnegie Library of Barnesville, Georgia was a direct result of the efforts of a local citizen, Miss Rosa Middlebrooks. On a visit to Cordele, Georgia, early in 1908, she was so impressed with the Carnegie Library there that, upon her return home, she wrote to Andrew Carnegie giving information about Barnesville, the schools, and the people. She received a prompt and encouraging reply: Mr. Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919) would donate \$10,000 for construction of a library if certain requirements were met.

The City Council and the Board of Trustees of Gordon Institute combined efforts to meet Mr. Carnegie's stipulations. The Barnesville Methodist Church furnished a lot directly

(Continued)

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Barnesville, GA

Quadrangle scale 1=24,000

UTM References

A

1	6	7	6	5	3	6	0	3	6	6	0	5	3	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property is the small parcel on which the library is located and which has always been associated with the library. It is marked on the enclosed plat. It coincides with the current legal description of the property.

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian

organization Historic Preservation Section

organization GA. Dept. of Natural Resources

date 12/2/1986

street & number Suite 1462

street & number 205 Butler St. S.E.

telephone 404-656-2840

city or town Atlanta,

state GA 30334

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

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

date 12/10/86

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

Amy Ehrlage
Keeper of the National Register

date 2/3/87

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet

Significance

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behind their church and across the street from the Gordon Institute. The city passed ordinances to assure annual appropriations for the maintenance and operation of the library, which Carnegie required before he would pay for the building.

In July, 1909, bids for the erection of the building were opened; in August, 1909, ground was broken. In March, 1910, the library held its first event in the new building. On August 2, 1910 the Carnegie Library Board of Trustees reported, "Mr. Cochran (Mayor) stated that Mr. Walker (architect) accepted the building, and the last payment had been made to Mr. Hahr (Manager, Barnesville Coal and Lumber Company, Contractor)."

The architectural firm of Whitfield and King of New York City designed the building, as they did other Carnegie Libraries. After 1908, Carnegie, through his private secretary James Bertram, required that plans be submitted for approval. Henry Whitfield was one of their consultants. The only other known library in Georgia they designed was the Ann Wallace Branch in Atlanta, which still survives. Mr. King was consulting architect for the Carnegie Library of Savannah in 1914. Beverly S. King (1879-1935) of this firm came to Barnesville and made a presentation to the City Council on August 2, 1909. At that meeting the council selected Barnesville Coal and Lumber Company as contractor with a bid of \$6709. Mr. King had not been in practice very long when he and his firm were called upon to design the library. He later moved to White Plains, New York, and from 1933-1935 worked as Deputy Administrator of the N.R.A. in Washington. The firm was reorganized about the time the library was finished. Mr. King took Atlanta-based architect Henry (Harry) Leslie Walker (1877-1954) as a partner and the firm was then known as King and Walker until late in 1910 when Walker also moved to New York. Although short-lived, King and Walker designed a number of structures in Atlanta, including Butler Hall (1912) at Grady Hospital and residences for prominent Atlantans Forrest Adair, Governor Hoke Smith, and Clyde King (1910). The firm also designed buildings in other southeastern cities as well as New York. Walker was president of the Atlanta Chapter of the AIA in 1910 and had practiced in the city since 1902.

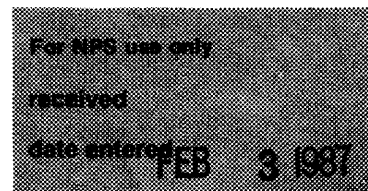
Miss Susan Simonton, a graduate of the Carnegie Library Training School in Atlanta, was employed as the first librarian. Gordon Institute contributed its entire collection of 2,000 volumes. Thus began an association with Gordon which due to proximity and mutual purpose was to last until Gordon moved to another campus in 1933. Citizens of Barnesville were generous with donations of both books and money.

The Carnegie Library of Barnesville has always been open to appropriate community use. The assembly room on the second floor has been utilized as a meeting place by the Barnesville Chamber of Commerce, the United Daughters of The Confederacy, the W.C.T.U., and the Gordon Debating Team. In June, 1910, a committee met at the library to renew efforts to create a new county.

During World War I, the library sponsored a collection of books and magazines to be sent to army camps. The librarian directed a play to raise money to help equip libraries built by the Carnegie Foundation at 16 army camps.

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Continuation sheet

Significance

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In 1942, the Victory Book Drive, sponsored by the American Library Association and the U.S.O., resulted in the collection of 400 books. Also, during World War II, the Red Cross supervised surgical dressings preparation and gave courses in First Aid and Home Nursing in the library's second floor assembly room.

Over the years, the Carnegie Library has played a prominent part in the cultural and educational progress of the community. Art exhibits featuring local adults and children's work have been sponsored. Reading clubs and story hours entertain a large number of children. Class visits are available to private schools and kindergartens. A Great Books discussion group met at the library. The National Guard has used the space to administer the Armed Forces Test.

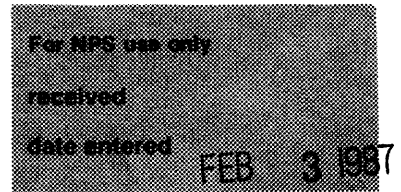
The most significant change in operation came in January, 1971, when the Carnegie Library joined the Flint River Regional Library System. This association affords an increase in services to the city and county citizens.

In 1968, a committee on self-evaluation of the Carnegie Library Board of Trustees recommended increasing the size of the library. Due to a tremendous increase in volumes to approximately 18,000, additional shelving has absorbed reading room space. An architectural engineer inspected the Carnegie Library and recommended making no structural changes for aesthetic considerations.

In June, 1984, it was determined that a grant from the State of Georgia might be obtained for construction of a new building. The Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Library voted to apply for this grant and application was made in 1986.

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Continuation sheet Bibliographical Item number 9 Page 2

Sellers, Elizabeth. "Carnegie Library..." Historic Property Information Form, January 10, 1986. On file at the Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia. Based on interviews, newspaper research, and minutes of the library board.

"Carnegie Libraries," Topical File, Historic Preservation Section.

"King and Walker," Architects and Builders in Georgia Research File, Historic Preservation Section.

Bobinski, George S. Carnegie Libraries . . . Chicago: American Library Association, 1969.

Plat Map

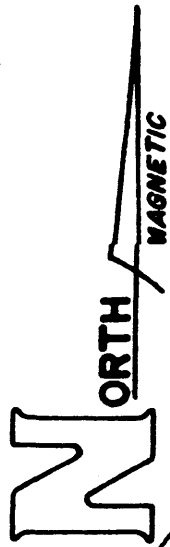
Carnegie Library of Barnesville
Barnesville, Lamar County, Georgia

Scale: On the map

Source: Conkle-Lane & Associates for
City of Barnesville

Date: 1985

Key: The library is delineated on the
map. The nominated property is marked
by a heavy black line.



GREENWOOD STREET

STREET

LIBRARY

STREET

WALK

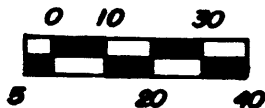
HOLMES

STREET

MAIN
ENTRANCE
Carnegie
Library

[Methodist
Church]

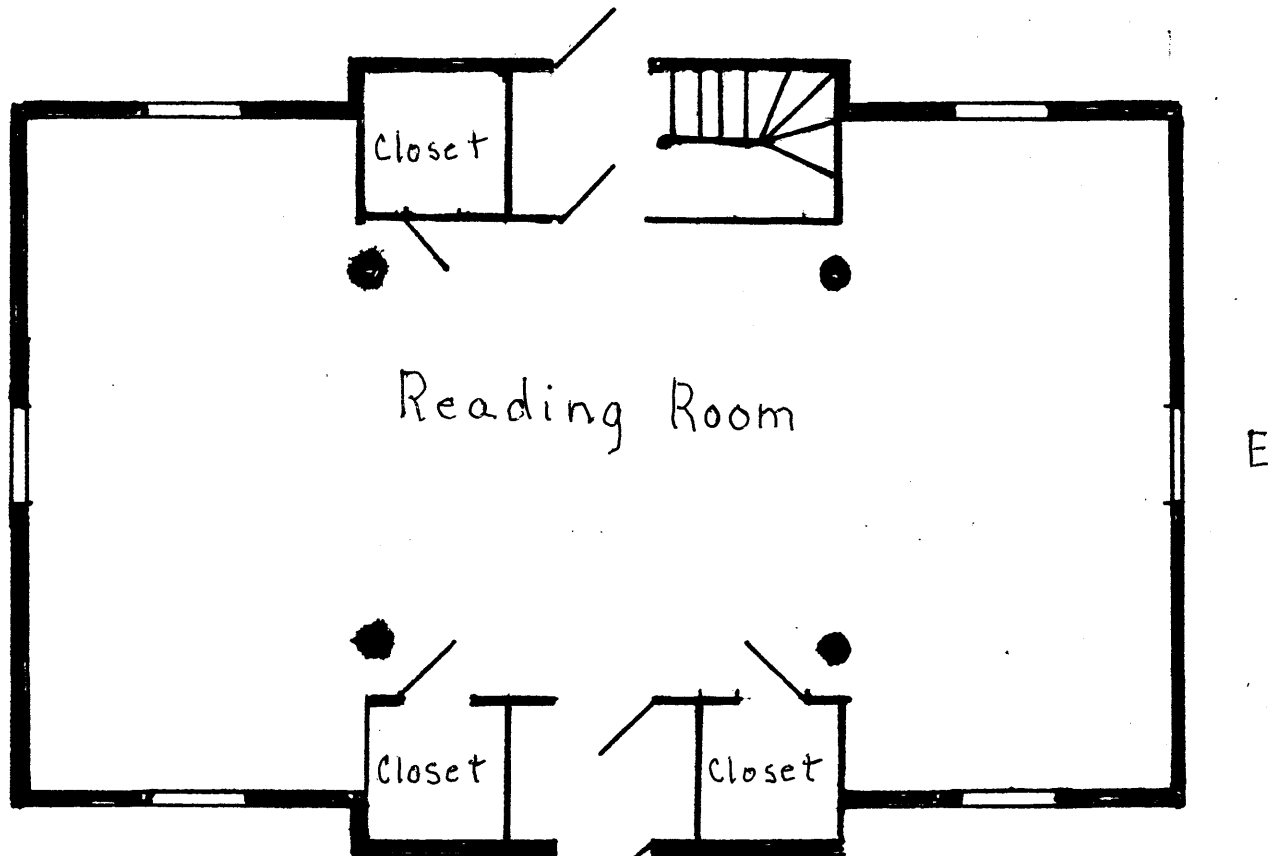
[Former Site
of
Gordon
INSTITUTE]



Sketch Map

Carnegie Library Barnesville, Georgia

N



W

E

Reading Room

Closet

Closet

Closet

S

First Floor

F

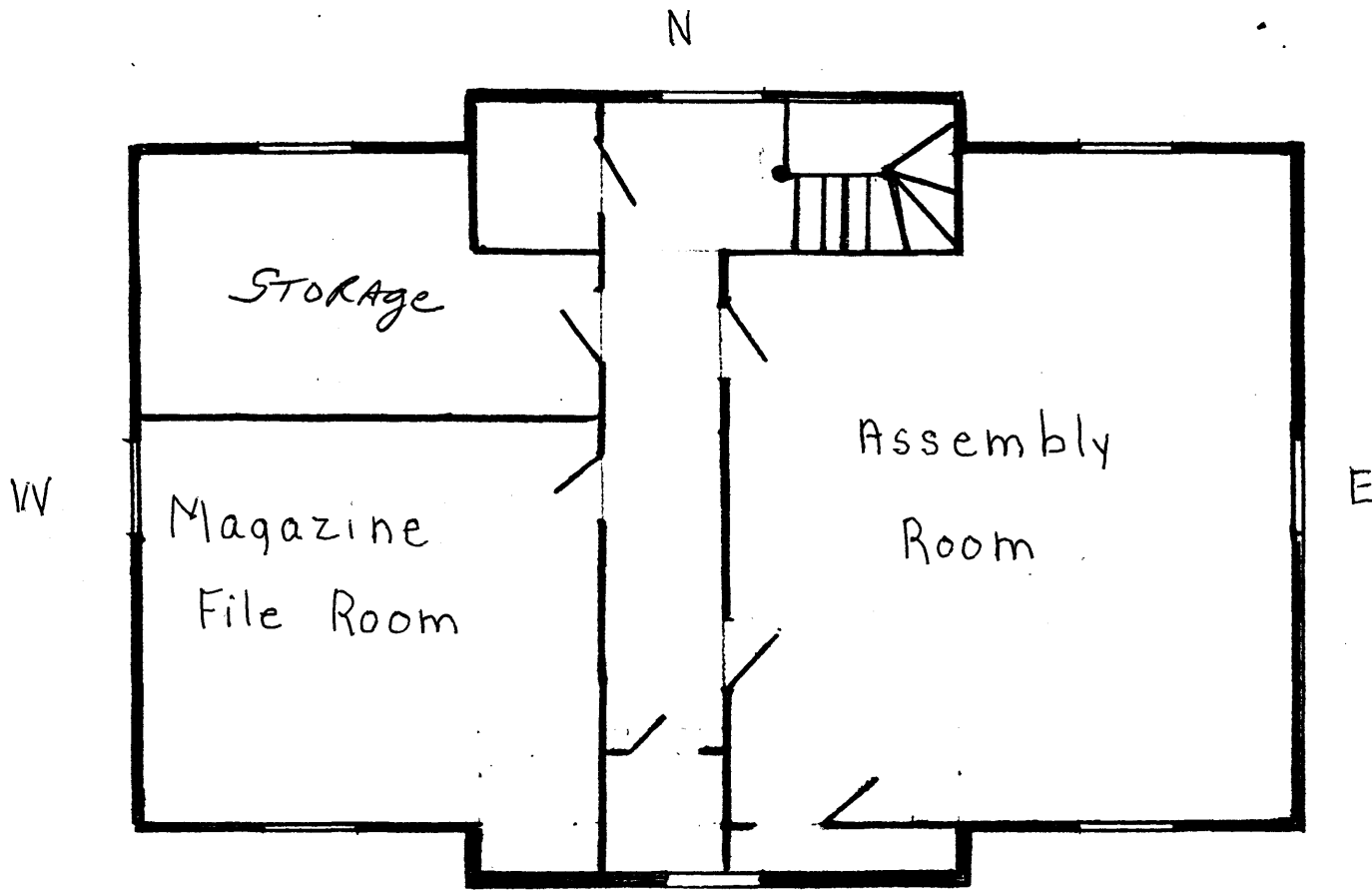
Floor Plan

Carnegie Library of Barnesville
Barnesville, Lamar County, Georgia
Scale: 1/8" = 1'
Source: Drawn by J. Holland Jackson
Date: 1985
Key: First Floor

SCALE 1/8" = 10'

J HOLLAND JACKSON

Carnegie Library Barnesville, Georgia



Second Floor

Floor Plan

Carnegie Library of Barnesville
Barnesville, Lamar County, Georgia
Scale: 1/8" = 1'
Source: Drawn by J. Holland Jackson
Date: 1985
Key: Second Floor

SCALE 1/8" = 1.0'

J. HOLLAND JACKSON