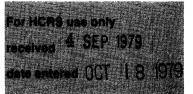
United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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 Valle	ey City Carnegie Lib	rary		
and/or common	Valley City Public	Library		
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	413 Central Ave.			not for publication
city, town Val	ley City	vicinity of	congressional district	1
state North Da	akota code	32 county	Barnes	code 003
3. Clas	sification			
Category district _X building(s) structure site object	Ownership _X_ public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Status X_occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial X educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation tother: Library
4. Own	er of Proper	ty		
name City	of Valley City		· · · · · ·	
street & number	220 NE 3rd P.O. B	ox 390		
city, town Va]	ley City	vicinity of	state M	lorth Dakota
5. Loca	ation of Lega	al Descripti	on	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc. Barnes	County Courthouse	, Register of Deeds	3
street & number				
city, town	Valley City		state	North Dakota
	resentation	in Existing		
			operty been determined ele	aible? ves po
date				e county loca
depository for su	urvey records	······································		

state

city, town

7. Description

Condition		Check one
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered
X good	ruins	_X_ altered
fair	unexposed	

Check one _X__ original site ____ moved date __

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

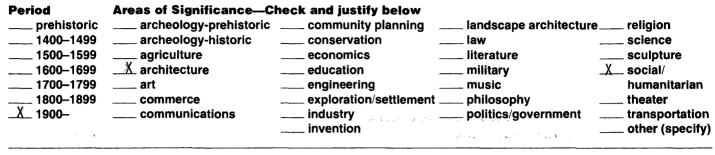
The Valley City Library emulates Jeffersonian design concepts in its balanced configuration, contrasting building materials and detail, including plain Tuscan columns, white gable-end triagular pediments punctuated by central windows, a fanlight above the main entrance and a centrally unifying cupola. Clearly, Jefferson's philosophy that a proper public building be Roman in stature and republican in nature is represented in this building.

The main focus of the building is the front portico with its white moulded metal pediment and boxed and bracketed cornice, all of which is supported by four pink sandstone columns. The portico overshadows a pair of four-panel and glass doors, the doors crowned by a recessed stained glass fanlight. The entry is surrounded by a radiating brick arch, which is visually supported by brick pilasters and accented by keystones and pilaster capitols in pink sandstone. Three adjoining one-over-one windows with upper sashes of rectiliniar tracery flank the entrance while plain one-over-one windows flank the portico on the north and south wing elevations. All of the roof gables end in the same pressed metal pediment and cornice and all but the rear tympanum are decorated with an open-ended laurel wreath which encompasses an oval window. Each gable peak is decorated by a metal antefix. All four gables are unified by a small metal cupola.

The foyer exhibits a variety of building materials: a grey, white and salmon terra-cotta floor, pink and grey marble stair treads and baseboards above which rises oak wainscoting. Another set of two-panel glass and oak doors open onto the main floor of the library. The main floor is divided into four main areas by four sets of Tuscan columns on raised bases (about four feet high) which set off a central area in the floor and rise to connecting ceiling beams which further accentuate the room order. Within the square area defined by these columns at the ceiling, was once a moulded metal ceiling vault, now covered by painted wallboard for energy conservation. Directly facing the front entrance, between the easternmost columns, stands the librarian's desk. Behind the desk is a set of five oak bookstacks with ornamental bead-and-reel trim. Above these stacks, light filters through a stained glass Palladian window with heavy oak frame. Throughout the library are oak reading tables, chairs, magazine racks, files and shelving, most original to the library. All windows have ornamental brass hardware and wooden venetian blinds hang in each of the windows. The floor is now carpeted for warmth and noise control.

On either side of the front entrance is a reading room and a cloak hall with brass coathooks and oak wainscoting. From the clockhall, an oak staircase, complete with wainscoting, turned ballusters, and carved newel post with copper decorative plates, leads to the basement level children's library. Here the plastered walls are painted yellow as is the pressed tin ceiling.

8. Significance



Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

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The Valley City Carnegie Library was the second of three prominent libraries constructed between 1900 and 1905 from designs of Fargo Architect William C. Albrandt. In 1900 Albrandt's Mayville Public Library was constructed as the first public library building in North Dakota. The style and configuration of the Mayville Library is clearly remembered in the 1903 Valley City Carnegie Library, although the latter is somewhat heavier in posture and detail. Albrandt's third library, also a Carnegie library, was built in 1905 on the campus of North Dakota Agricultural College, and was Albrandt's finest rendition of themes and styles carried through all three library structures.

The Valley City library was one of eleven Carnegie libraries built in North Dakota, and is one of only three Carnegie libraries which remain essentially unaltered in the state. Andrew Carnegie made donations for public and academic libraries between 1898 and 1917, and he endorsed a functional building plan for the structures but left variety and detail to the individual architect. The Valley City Library conforms to the Carnegie prescriptions, except for the "wasteful" window placement. The Valley City Carnegie Library therefore stands as a lasting symbol of Gilded Age philanthropy and a continuing community dedication to the faith of that era in universal public education.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

1.) A Manual of the Public Benefactions of Andrew Carnegie published by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington 1919.

2.) Public Libraries in North Dakota, the Formative Years, 1880-1920 master's thesis, Glen Lowell Brudvig, 1962, University of Minnesota, Mpls.

10. Geographical Data

Chief of Registration

ومذيب بيبين البريجي والمواجرين الكفافة بالفاعة والتجريبي الكبيب بالأكثر ويزيب ومربها والواف	والمتحد والمحاولات والمتحدة والمركم والمحاد والمحاد والمحاد		والمراقع بالمتحد والمراجع والمتحاد والمتحاد والمتحاد والمحاج والمحاج والمحاج والمحاج والمحاد والمحاد والمحاد المحاد				
Acreage of nominated propertyles Quadrangle nameValley City UMT References		ere	Quadrangle scale7.5				
A 1 4 5 7 5 8 9 5 5 1 Zone Easting Northi	9 ₁ 721610	B Zone Ea	asting Northing				
		┍└┰┤└ ╒└┰┦└╴ ⊢└┰┨└					
Verbal boundary description and The nominated property is 1 of Valley City, an area of	ocated on Lot		f the Original Townsite Plat				
List all states and counties for p	roperties overlag	pping state or coun	ty boundaries				
state	code	county	code				
state	code	county	code				
11. Form Prepar	ed By						
name/title Jacqueline Sluss, F	listorical Ass	istant; Kurt Sch	weigert, Architectural Historian				
organization State Historical	Society of No	rth Dakota date	August 22, 1979				
street & number Liberty Memoria	l Building	telepi	none (701)224-2672				
city or town Bismarck		state	North Dakota 58505				
12. State Histor	ic Prese	rvation Of	ficer Certification				
The evaluated significance of this property within the state is: nationalX_stateX_ 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.							
State Historic Preservation Officer sig	nature Can	nes E the	m				
ille State Historic Preservat	ion Officer (North Dakota)	date 8/27/1979				
For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this propert And And Keeper of the National Register	r is included in the	National Register	date 10-18-79				