

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

For HCRS use only

received SEP 10 1980

date entered NOV 10 1980

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

**1. Name**

historic Minot Carnegie Library (Preferred)

and/or common Free Public Library, Carnegie Library, Minot Public Library

**2. Location**

street & number 105 2nd Avenue SE \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Minot \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 1

state North Dakota code 38 county Ward code 101

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: unoccupied

**4. Owner of Property**

name City of Minot

street & number City Hall, 515 2nd Avenue SW

city, town Minot \_\_\_ vicinity of state North Dakota

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Ward County Courthouse

street & number 301 3rd Street SE

city, town Minot state North Dakota

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title N/A has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Minot Carnegie Library is a modest but handsome example of Neo-Classical Revival Architecture in North Dakota. Its basic rectangular configuration, symmetrical fenestration and use of classical elements are common to smaller Carnegie libraries built throughout the United States.

The exterior library facades, prior to painting, were a pleasant contrast of sandstone elements against a buff and brown brick background. A wash of white paint, applied in the late 1970's has erased that contrast. The front facade, rectangular in massing, is raised upon a high brick foundation punctuated with double sash windows. The facade is anchored by a central stair and portico which both physically protects and visually frames the front entrance. Within this frame, a sandstone door surround is flanked by tall narrow windows with sandstone sills. Above the doorframe, two carved ancons support a sandstone entablature. The portico roof and pediment are supported by two Ionic sandstone columns. Brick sidewalls, which compliment the shape of the columns, enclose the portico on two sides. A sandstone tympanum, surrounded by a dentiled cornice, is embellished with acanthus leaves, volutes, and a cartouche dated 1911. Below the pediment a roughly faced frieze reads "Carnegie Library." Accentuating the horizontal lines of the facade, the frieze continues across the facade and is defined by sandstone fascia and cornice. A parapet wall rises above the cornice to reiterate the movement of the frieze. Flanking the portico, the facades are punctuated with two sets of large double-hung windows with transoms. Brick pilasters with Ionic capital volutes separate each of the windows and visually support the architrave above.

The east and west facades repeat the order of the front facade and are punctuated by smaller double sash windows. A west side entrance opens to the basement level. The rear facade, broken by a projecting chimney column, lacks the cornice and fascia treatment of the other elevations, and brick jack arches and sandstone sills frame the windows.

An interior vestibule gives access to both the main floor and basement levels. The vestibule floor is an orange, brown and white pattern of square and triangular ceramic tile. The interior of the library proper is structurally unaltered and maintains its most outstanding quality: its woodwork. The first floor reading room, except for an enclosed librarian's office in the northeast corner, is a single open rectangular space. Curved ceiling mouldings, heavy wood ceiling beams, and two square pillars with egg and dart embellishments visually divide the room into three main spaces. Bookshelves, further define these spaces. A brick mantel with glazed ceramic hearth tiles graces the north wall of the west room and original plain wood surrounds frame the doors and windows. A dumb waiter in the northeast corner of the librarian's office once served the basement library but has been converted to shelving.

The basement level reading room, also structurally unaltered, is more simply finished. All the woodwork and shelving is painted. A second brick fireplace, also painted, stands on the north wall and shares the same chimney as the main floor hearth. The floors have been covered with linoleum and the lighting is fluorescent.

To facilitate use of the library as a senior citizen's facility in the 1970's, the first level reading room floor was laid with linoleum. Modern wood paneling has been applied as wainscoting and the original light fixtures have been replaced with fluorescent lighting.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1911 **Builder/Architect** Woodruff & McGulpin Architects/Builders

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Andrew Carnegie foundation funded the construction of eleven libraries in North Dakota. Out of that number, six still stand in various states of integrity. The Minot Carnegie Library, although cosmetically altered slightly, is structurally unchanged and retains both exterior stylistic cohesiveness and handsome interior finish.

Designed and built in 1911 by the Minot firm of Woodruff and McGulpin, the plan is one of Carnegie prescription; one that provides maximum book storage and natural light, and one easily amenable to a rear addition. Its Neo-Classical exterior is the architects choice and reflects the Greek Ionic order.

Abandoned in 1965 as too small to house the library, the library building continued to serve the community as the Minot Senior Citizen's Center. The library has been vacant since 1979, but there is local interest in use of the structure as an art gallery and education center, an adaptive re-use that would be fitting to a building that has been a cultural center of the community since 1911.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

# 10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Minot

Quadrangle scale 7.5'

### UMT References

A 

1	4	3	2	9	9	0	0	5	3	4	4	6	9	5
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 9, 10, and 11 Block 8 Original Plat, Minot.

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

state \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jackie Sluss, Historical Assistant

organization State Historical Society of North Dakota date August 1, 1980

street & number Liberty Memorial Building telephone (701)224-2672

city or town Bismarck state North Dakota 58505

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *James E. Sherry*

title ND State Historic Preservation Officer date August 21, 1980

For HCERS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<i>James E. Sherry</i>	date <i>11/10/80</i>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <i>Paula Stoner Reed</i>	date <i>11/3/80</i>
Chief of Registration	