

United States Department of the Interior
National Park 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 Carnegie Library of Moultrie

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 39 North Main Street N/A not for publication

city, town Moultrie N/A vicinity of congressional district

state Georgia code 013 county Colquitt code 071

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Billy G. Fallin/ Fallin and McIntosh

street & number 39 North Main Street

city, town Moultrie N/A vicinity of state Georgia 31768

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Colquitt County Courthouse

city, town Moultrie state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date N/A federal state county local

depository for survey records None

city, town state

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Carnegie Library of Moultrie, built in 1908, is a two-story red brick building with some Georgian Revival features located on a corner lot in downtown Moultrie, Colquitt County, Georgia.

The nearly square building has a projecting central bay on its front and rear facades and a flat parapet roof that rests on an entablature with a prominent modillioned cornice. The red brick load-bearing walls are laid in stretcher bond on a rusticated cut stone foundation. Corners are highlighted with quoins of the same rusticated granite. Window treatment on the front and sides features double hung sash windows highlighted with dark brick headers and capped on the first floor by cast stone lintels with alternate radiating voussoirs and on the second by fanlights with brick arch surrounds composed of three rows of the dark headers. Window treatment on the rear is less elaborate. The symmetrical three bay front facade is dominated by the projecting central stair tower, highlighted at the front corners by shallow pilasters edged with dark headers. The front entrance, in the stair tower, is flanked by brick pilasters that support a cast stone lintel with egg-and-dart molding. A small side entrance recessed behind a round arched opening is located on the north side. Certain cosmetic alterations were made to both the exterior and interior of the building in 1973 when it was converted to law offices. At this time, the original double glass-paneled doors and plain transom were replaced with a paneled door with sidelights and overlights. The one-over-one window lights were changed to six-over-six lights on the second floor and nine-over-nine lights on the first floor, and the fanlights were restyled.

The library interior features an entrance foyer and a central reception hall which widens into an area for stacks toward the rear. This is flanked by a reading room on each side at the front and small offices and a bathroom to the rear. The second floor, unaltered and presently unused, is one large room with a beaded tongue-and-groove board ceiling, exposed ceiling beams and a raised stage at its west end. Finishing materials on the first floor include beaded tongue-and-groove wainscoting and plaster walls (now wallpapered) throughout. The stairway, located in the front stair tower, is the most elaborate interior feature. The divided, closed-string, four run staircase with a central landing features square paneled newels with finials and turned balusters rising from a paneled string. At the point where the central hall opens into the stack area it is visually subdivided by an elaborated detailed ceiling beam supported by fluted pilasters with Corinthian capitals. Sliding pocket doors provide access to the two reading rooms from the main hall. Coal burning fireplaces with cast-iron grates and wood mantels were originally located in both reading rooms. These originally provided the only heat. The mantel in the south (children's) room was removed in the 1973 renovation when the room was subdivided to form two offices.

(CONTINUED)

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

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

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 2

In another 1973 modification, the rear of the stack area was enclosed by a wall which extends across the space from north to south.

The Carnegie Library is located on a corner city lot in a commercial area of downtown Moultrie. Grassy plots with a few shrubs, located to either side of the front entrance, are the building's only landscaping. Sidewalks surround the library on the east and north sides, and a parking lot is located to the north. A city fire station of undetermined building date was located in this parking area to the rear of the library until it was demolished in 1964. This building served from the early 1950's until it was torn down as the Negro branch of the library. Adjacent to the library to the south is a one-story commercial building, and directly across North Main Street is the Colquitt County Federal Building, an historic building which served previously as the United States Post Office.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in November, 1981 still represent the character and appearance of the property. No significant changes have been made since that date.

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 1908 **Builder/Architect** G.W. Milligan, Cement Construction Company, Builder; Architect, Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Carnegie Library of Moultrie, built in 1908, is significant in the areas of architecture, education and social/humanitarian history. Architecturally, the building is important as one of Moultrie's earliest public buildings. It is significant in the history of library architecture as one of the early public library facilities in Georgia, and one of the first ten Carnegie Libraries in the state (of which there were eventually twenty by World War I), whose plan and design reflect contemporary thinking about library construction. In terms of education, the library is significant as the home of the first public library in Moultrie which served the city from 1908 until a new facility was constructed in 1964, and then again as a branch library from 1965–1970. In terms of social/humanitarian history, the library is significant for its association with Andrew Carnegie, the early twentieth century philanthropist whose \$10,000 donation for the construction of the building made the public library possible. The above areas of significance support property eligibility under National Register criteria A, B and C.

ARCHITECTURE

The library is one of the oldest extant public buildings in Moultrie, a town that did not begin to develop until about ten years before the library was built. The library was one of the first important public buildings constructed in the community after the courthouse, post office and a school building. It is a well-proportioned late-Victorian building with many Georgian Revival details which include the red brick, the fanlights, corner quoins and the contrasting window trim. On the interior, the stairway is a particularly interesting architectural feature. The building contractor was G.W. Milligan of the Cement Construction Company, the same builder who completed the courthouse and built the W. W. Ashburn House; considerable research has failed to determine the architect's name.

The library has significance as an early example of public library architecture in Georgia and as such reflects contemporary thinking about library layout and design. Beginning in 1911, a leaflet entitled "Notes on Library Buildings [sic]" which included sample building plans was sent by Andrew Carnegie to all communities that were to receive his library funds. It was prepared by Carnegie's secretary, James Bertram, in consultation with leading authorities from the library and architecture professions, in an effort to avoid some of the impractical and inefficient Carnegie library designs that had been prepared previously. The Moultrie library was built before these directives were written, but its first floor plan resembles the sample plans in important aspects. Most significantly, the central reception hall, flanked by reading

(CONTINUED)

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 0.17 acre

Quadrangle name Moultrie, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	7	2	3	4	1	7	0	3	4	5	2	7	8	0
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 The boundary of the nominated property, outlined with a heavy black line on the enclosed surveyor's map, is all the property presently and historically associated with the library building.

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carolyn Brooks, National Register Researcher

organization Historic Preservation Section
Georgia Dept of Natural Resources

date May 20, 1982

street & number 270 Washington Street, SW

telephone 404/656-2840

city or town Atlanta

state Georgia 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

date 6/8/82

title State Historic Preservation Officer

For NPS use only

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

date 7/15/82

Andrew Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Significance Item number 8 Page 2

rooms visible from this central area, is consistent with good small town library design that provided for the needs of one librarian who might have to oversee the entire building. The upstairs auditorium was not in keeping with Carnegie's idea about practical library design, however. Its presence delayed the approval of the building's plans for sometime while Bertram and local officials corresponded back and forth about its proposed function.

EDUCATION

In the area of education, the library is significant as the first public library in Moultrie and one of the first in the state. The library opened in 1908 with books donated by local citizens. The drive for the new library was spearheaded by the County School Commissioner, who wrote to Andrew Carnegie in 1906, requesting funds. Moultrie, a newly developing town eager to keep up with its more established neighbors (by 1908 in Southwest Georgia, Albany, Cordele and Pelham had Carnegie libraries), readily accepted the conditions for a Carnegie library building grant. These conditions required the community to provide a site for the library and annually to commit city funds amounting to ten percent of Carnegie's contribution to provide for library maintenance, staff salaries and book acquisitions, etc. The library became a focal point for community educational programs and also, due to the upstairs auditorium, for community entertainment. From 1938-1964 this room was used by the Moultrie School System as a continuation school and, later, as a vocational school. A new modern library facility was completed in 1964; the Carnegie Library continued to operate as a branch library from 1965 to 1970.

SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN HISTORY

The Carnegie Library of Moultrie is significant in the area of social/humanitarian history for its associations with Andrew Carnegie, one of America's most important turn-of-the-century philanthropists. Carnegie amassed one of the world's largest private fortunes, and by the 1880's he began actively distributing his wealth for the betterment of the general populace. His writings on philanthropy and the example of his generous giving encouraged a tradition of philanthropy throughout the country. Carnegie believed that by promoting education he would help to prevent poverty and ignorance. Libraries were his special interest because he felt they were the most democratic means to spread education to large groups of people. In all, Carnegie donated funds to 1412 communities throughout the United States which resulted in the erection of 1679 free public library buildings. Many historians agree that Carnegie's generosity was the most effective impetus to the then burgeoning public library movement in this country. His requirement that the local community provide adequate annual tax support for his library building reinforced the idea of local government responsibility for providing library services. Particularly in the southeast and southwest, where state library commissions and boards were late in forming, the availability of Carnegie library funds resulted in the establishment of most of the first free libraries in these states.

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

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

For HCERS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Bibliography

Item number 9

Page 2

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

Covington, W.A. History of Colquitt County. Atlanta: Foote and Davies, 1937.

Coyle, Mattie Oglesby. History of Colquitt County, Georgia. 1925 (reprinted by Moultrie-Colquitt County Bicentennial Committee, 1975).

Fallin, Leah G., "The Moultrie Carnegie Library: Historic Property Information Form", June, 1981. On file at Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta.

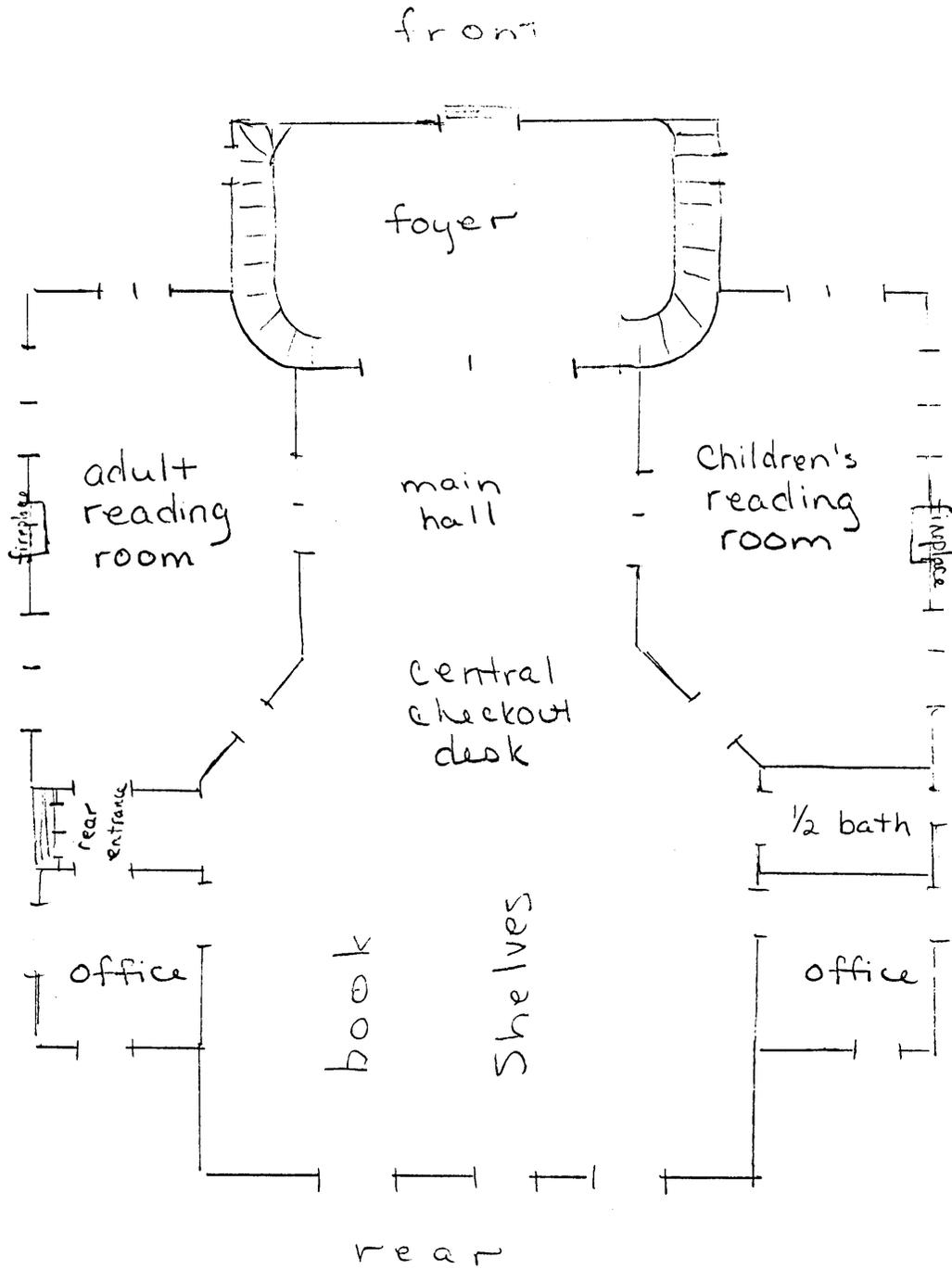
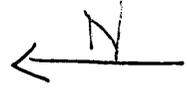
Moultrie, Georgia Carnegie Library Correspondence. Microfilm Reel 20 (Available at Carnegie Corporation, New York, New York).

Odom, Ellen Payne. History of the Public Library of Moultrie, Georgia 1906-1965. Moultrie, Georgia: Observer Printers, 1966.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF MOULTRIE
Moultrie, Colquitt County, Georgia

SKETCH MAP/ORIGINAL FIRST FLOOR PLAN

Scale: Not to scale
North: ←



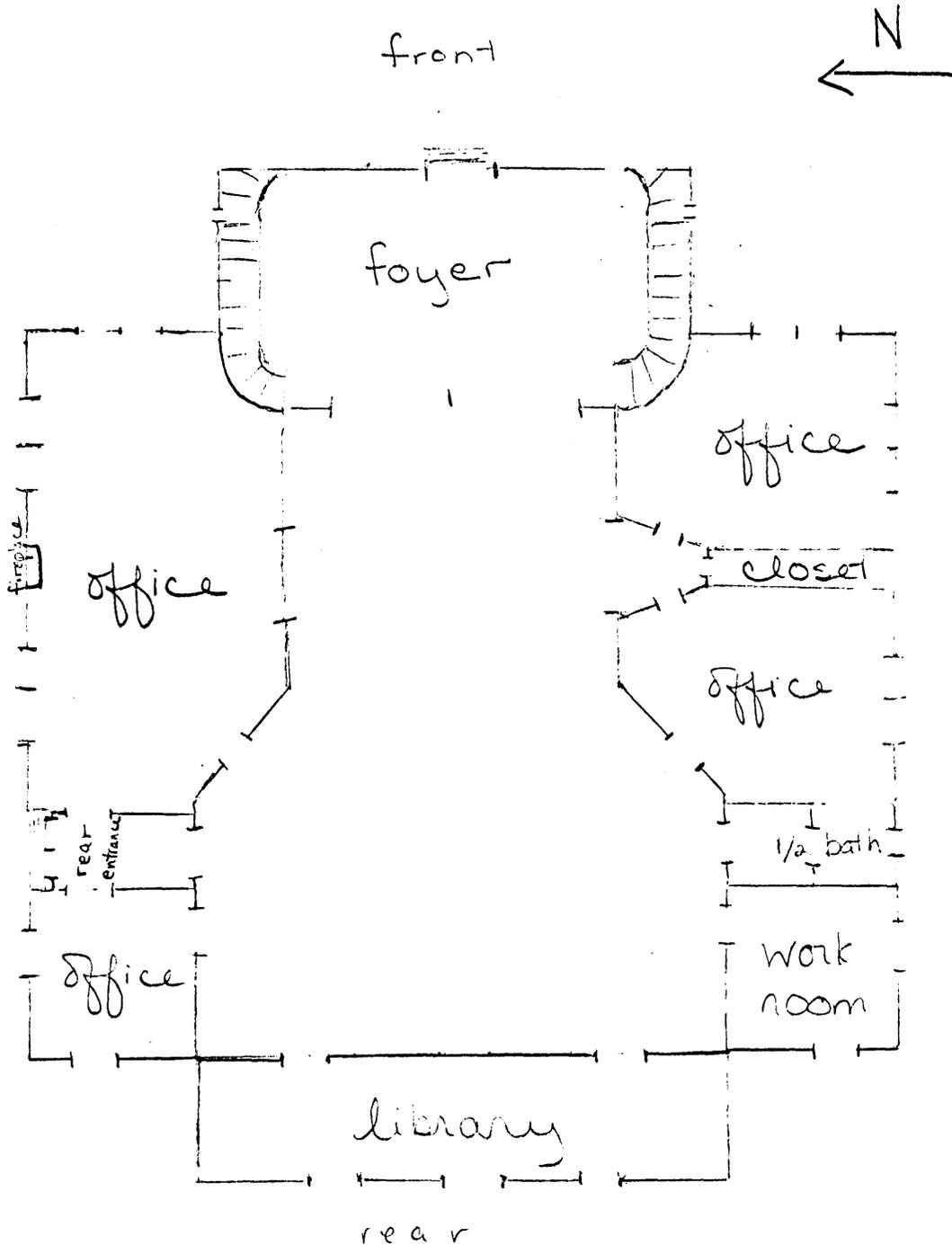
1st floor (1908-1973)

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF MOULTRIE
Moultrie, Colquitt County, Georgia

SKETCH MAP/PRESENT FIRST FLOOR PLAN

Scale: Not to scale

North: ←



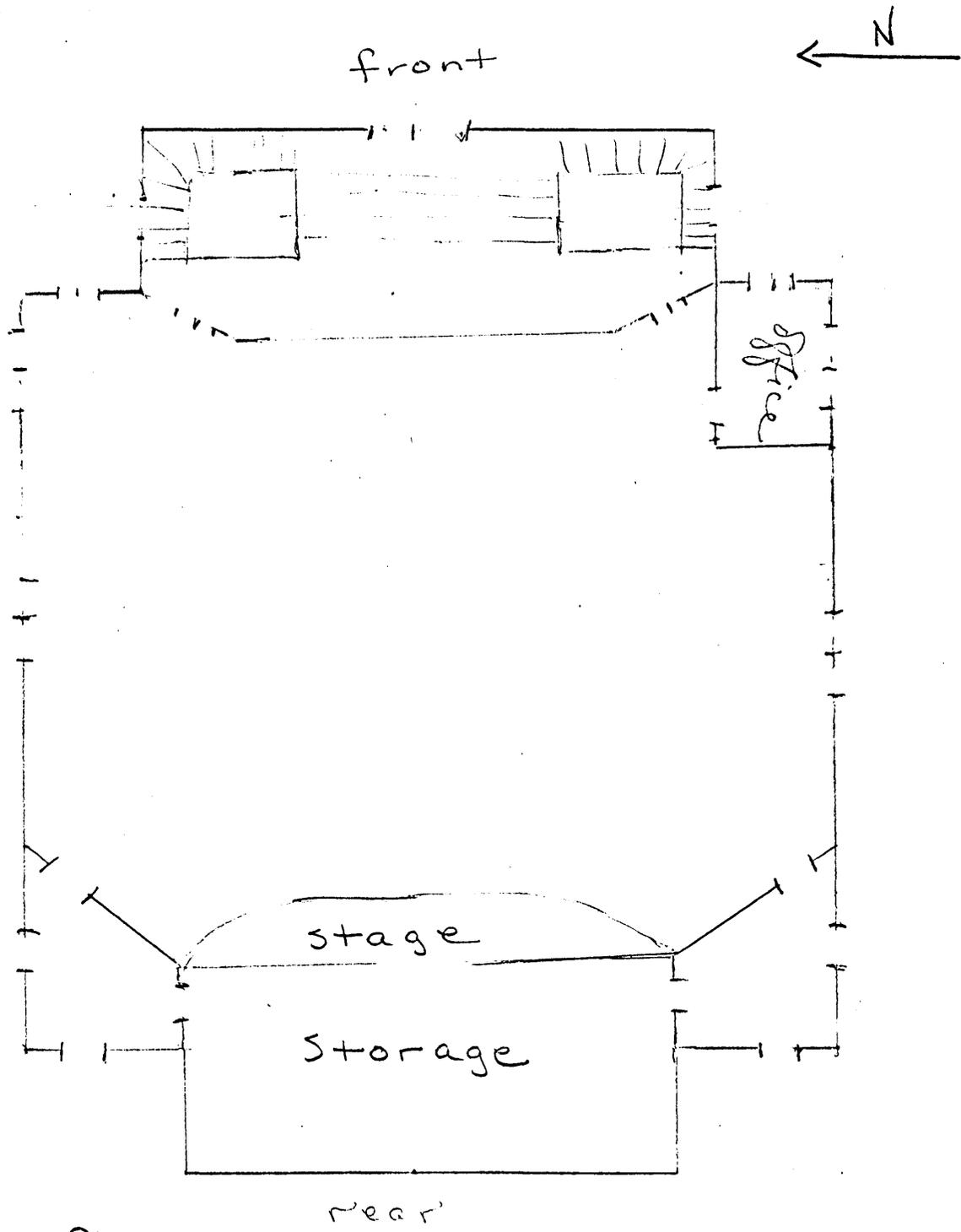
1st floor - (1973 to date)

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF MOULTRIE
Moultrie, Colquitt County, Georgia

SKETCH MAP/SECOND FLOOR PLAN

Scale: Not to scale

North: ←



● 2nd floor (to date)

