

PH0352071

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 9 1976

DATE ENTERED DEC 12 1976

DATA SHEET

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

**

A.K. Smiley Public Library

AND/OR COMMON

A.K. Smiley Public Library

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

125 West Vine Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Redlands

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

37

STATE

California 92373

CODE

06

COUNTY

San Bernardino

CODE

071

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

City of Redlands

STREET & NUMBER

30 Cajon Street

CITY, TOWN

Redlands

VICINITY OF

California 92373

STATE

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

San Bernardino County Recorder's Office Hall of Records

STREET & NUMBER

172 West Third Street

CITY, TOWN

San Bernardino

California

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Point of Historical Interest (Calif. Historical Landmarks Advisory Comm.)

DATE

January 26, 1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Department of Parks & Recreation

CITY, TOWN

Sacramento

STATE

California

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 A.K. Smiley Public Library was designed in Moorish style (popularly called "mission" by contemporaries) in 1898 by the architect T.R. Griffith of Redlands. It was constructed by the Redlands firm of Davis M. Donald. Work began on August 24, 1897. The walls are constructed of solid brick with hand-cut stone trimmings. The roof is of tiling brought from Chicago and is still in use. There are full-basements under each wing constructed of hand-cut stone and cement.

The main building is in the shape of a cross. The plastering is upon steel lath, the floors are double, the upper floor of solid oak. The inside work is of well seasoned quartered oak (golden). All of the inside work, except the oak mantles, was done in Redlands. In each of the oak arches spanning the ceiling are inserts of fine, hand-cut lace-like designs. The gargoyle faces, all hand-carved, are unusual each being a different face, set at the base of the corbels in the main reading room. The stone carving of a griffin on the frieze over the main entrance arch is particularly outstanding.

The windows are all polished plate and some of the smaller windows are exquisitely leaded with the diamond designs outlining the opaque etched glass. The two stained glass rose windows and the four square stained-glass windows featuring symbolism associated with learning and libraries are original to the 1898 structure.

Nearly all of the golden oak furniture still in use is from the 1898 period.

Ornamental rockwork in front of the building is random ashlar masonry.

The library has undergone some additions through the years in order to meet community needs. An east wing was added first to the library in 1907. This is the reference wing and contains the long arched arcade. It was added by Smiley at a cost of \$12,000.

In 1920, Daniel Smiley, a younger brother, added a wing which cost \$10,000. This is the children's reference and young reader's room wing, extending south perpendicularly from the 1907 wing.

In 1926, an additional wing were made possible by the generosity of Eldredge Lyon. The 1926 Lyon wing extends south from the original building, running parallel to the 1920 "children's wing" addition.

The 1930 wing, made possible by public contribution is the stack wing and extends to the west from the original building.

In 1936, the upper story and roof of the tower were removed. The shallow saucer-like roof over the porte cochere has also been removed.

The original building and additional wings are indicated on the sketch plan.

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 type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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 1898, 1907, 1920, 1926, 1930 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Davis Donald/T.R. Griffith

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Historically, the A.K. Smiley Public Library has regional and statewide significance as well as national. Built in 1898 by A.K. Smiley, the library was a gift to the city of Redlands made by one of the turn-of-the-century's best known philanthropists.

Identical twin brothers, Alfred H. and Albert K. Smiley were born in Vassalboro, Maine in 1828. After a career in education as both teachers and administrators, the brothers engaged upon joint hotel enterprises in New York State in 1870. Albert K. Smiley was appointed by President Hayes to the Board of Indian Commissioners in 1879. He initiated and sponsored the first Lake Mohawk Conference which then became an annual meeting with published reports for the purpose of dealing with Indian, and later, negro and U.S. dependency inhabitant problems. Smiley also worked with the movement for world peace and instituted another series of discussions in 1895, known as the Lake Mohawk Conferences on International Arbitration. He was also the proprietor of Lake Mohawk Mountain Houses in New York (itself now on the National Register).

In 1889, Albert purchased land south of Redlands where he and his brother built winter homes. There, he created a nationally famous tourist attraction and private park, Canon Crest Park.

Smiley also served as a trustee of Brown University, Bryn Mawr, and Pomona Colleges.

In 1898, Smiley donated the library and an adjoining park to the City of Redlands; this is truly a memorial to his service in both the East and West for education.

To the library were attracted a host of well known Americans, including Andrew Carnegie who endowed the library's Carnegie Southern California Indian Collection. Authors Charles Fletcher Lummis, George Wharton James, Sydney Burchell, John Steven McGroarty, and Harold Bell Wright visited as well. Wright used the library often for research for his own writing. Others who visited the library were Lyman Abbot, William Jennings Bryan, Maude Ballington Booth, Theodore Cuyler, Edwin Markham, Henry Van Dyke and Helen M. Gould.

The A.K. Smiley Public Library houses an archives collection today of rare research materials on Southern California and the local area, as well as being

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Alameda Encinal, May 1898
 - Los Angeles Express, April 23, 1898
 - Los Angeles Herald, April, 1898
 - New York Examiner, May 5, 1898
 - Oakland Enquirer, June 1898
 - San Francisco Call, March 6, 1898
- (Continued on continuation sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.80 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>1</u> <u>1</u>	<u>4</u> <u>8</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>3</u> <u>7</u> <u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>9</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The library is located in Smiley Park, bounded on the east by Fourth Street on the west by Eureka Street and on the south by Vine Street.

The south boundary of the park abuts on private property, a parking lot of the Contemporary Club which cuts through from east to west from Fourth to Eureka Streets.

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

Phyllis Irshay, Director

ORGANIZATION

A.K. Smiley Public Library

DATE

July 12, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

125 West Vine Street

TELEPHONE

714-793-2201

CITY OR TOWN

Redlands

STATE

California

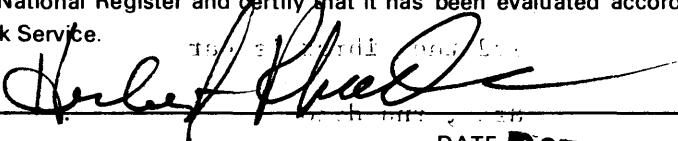
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL XX

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



TITLE

DIRECTOR

DATE OCT 13 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
Attest:	DATE <u>12/12/76</u>
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE <u>12/6/76</u>
ATTEST:	
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	NOV 9 1976
DATE ENTERED	DEC 12 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

a functioning library for the public in Redlands to use and enjoy for contemporary reading and audio-visual materials.

As an example of a significant style of California architecture and of the eastern migration heritage that built Southern California during and immediately after the "boom" period of the 1880's, this library is truly a unique cultural institution.

The architect of the A.K. Smiley Public Library was T.R. Griffith of San Bernardino, California. He was known in that community for the number of business buildings he had designed, none of which unfortunately are in existence today, including the Union Motor Depot. In 1891 he moved his office to Redlands where most of his work was the designing of fine homes, one of which was just recently designated by the Redlands Area Historical Society as a Redlands Heritage home for 1976 -- the Jacobs-Dike home on East Cypress built in 1895.

Among his other work in Redlands was the First National Bank building just now being torn down for the development of the Redlands Mall and the high school of 1892.

The original plans for the library were drawn c1897/98 and in April of 1898 the first structure was completed and dedicated. Subsequent wings were added in conjunction with his projections for them.

The architectural design of the library has been variously described as Moorish and/or Mission style. It is however, a unique eclectic combination of mainly Islamic and Mediterranean motifs.

The large parapet facades, tile roof, and arcade and color (not originally white but the natural red of the brick) suggest the Mission style.

The flowing curve of the parapet over the arcade, the surface ornamentation in various locations, and the battlement over the porte cochere are Moorish in feeling.

The proportion of the arches in the arcade is more classic than Mission style, the recessed brick treatment in the contours of the arches is Spanish Romanesque, and the "Rose" windows are reminiscent of a Gothic cathedral. The roof ridge suggests oriental origins.

The carved ornamentation of piers below the arches of the two porte cochere-type structures and the column capitals supporting interior arches are Romanesque in feeling.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 9 1976

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE

2

The interior truss-like wood arches, upper row of windows, like church clerestory, and "rose" windows suggest ecclesiastic themes.

The library is an impressive and unique structure possessing a highly individualistic combination of eclectic motifs, primarily Mediterranean and Islamic in design. As such, it reflects late Victorian-era architecture rather well.

The educational significance of the library cannot be overemphasized. Not only was it important to the growing town of some 4,000 population when the first section was open in 1898, but through the years has become an outstanding public library serving now the community of some 36,000 with over 100,000 circulating items for the many publics of all ages and reading skills in Redlands.

The archives of the library include nearly 7,000 cataloged and classified items on California, Redlands and area history plus thousands of as yet uncataloged materials particularly letters, diaries, photographs and other memorabilia of the early days of this area. Primary source materials are being housed carefully and with the proper and fitting archival processes being adhered to. Researchers from all over this part of the state are using this facility for the archival materials...from universities and colleges in the area, authors, historians and students especially high school and college age. This collection is of paramount importance to the community enhancing as it does the study, appreciation and understanding of California's past and particularly that of the Redlands-San Bernardino area.

In times past, notables of their age came to this library and often contributed to its holdings some of their writings. Among those was Charles F. Lummis, the noted author, editor and historian who gave to this library several of his works inscribed nota bene, along with a handsome collection of his rare, original photographs of Indians of the Southwest.

The Carnegie National Collection features many old and rare volumes on California and Southwest Indians such as the Curtis photographic volumes.

The A.K. and Daniel Smiley papers provide extensive insight into tourism and the boom period in Southern California as well as insight into conditions of the Mission Indians of Southern California at the turn of the century as well as of leading personalities of Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	NOV 9 1976
DATE ENTERED	DEC 12 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

9

PAGE

1

Alfred, Albert, and Daniel Smiley: A Biography by Larry E. Burgess, Redlands California, 1969.
On the Banks of the Zanja by Edith Parker Hinckley, Claremont, California, 1951.
Only One Redlands by Lawrence Emerson, Redlands, California, 1963.
California Librarian, July 1969. "The A.K. Smiley Public Library and How It Grew" by Phyllis C. Irshay.
Outwest, January 1899.
Cyclopedia of National Biography.
Dictionary of American Biography.
Who Was Who in America.
A.K. Smiley Public Library, A Brief History, Larry Burgess, 1973 (pamphlet).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 9 1976
DATE ENTERED DEC 12 1976

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET	ITEM NUMBER	PAGE
A.K. Smiley Public Library Geographical data	10	

The library is a sprawling building some 280' in length on the north side facing the street. The portico itself is 150' in length giving a dramatic appearance to the entire structure.

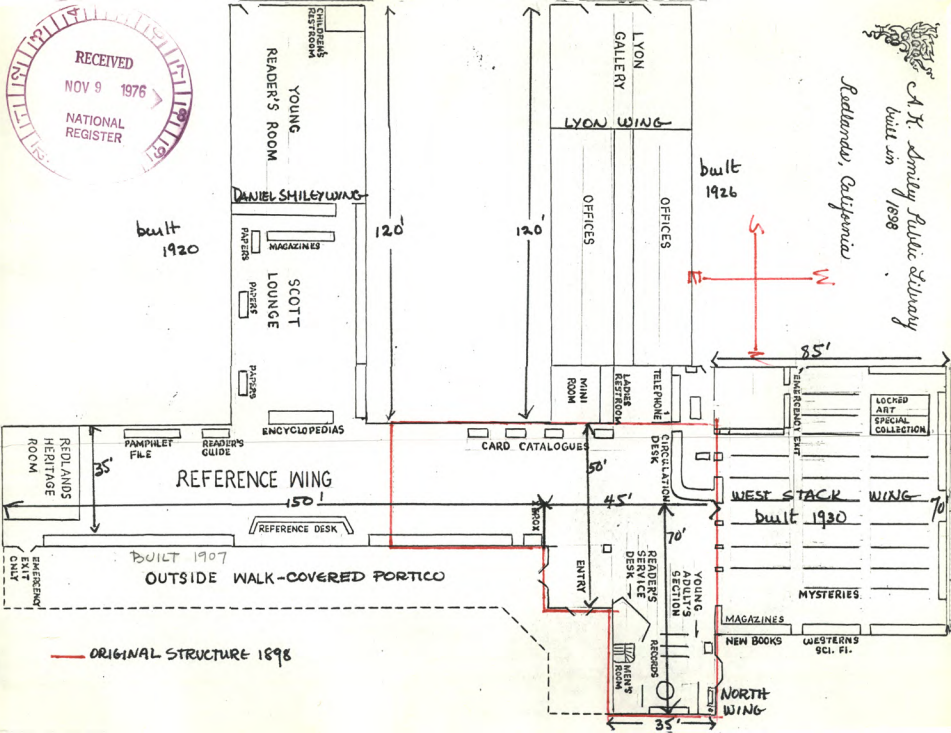
The sizes of each area are as follows:

- (5,250sq ft)Reference wing...150' in length, 35' in width to main entry
- (225 sq ft)Main entry foyer....15' x15'
- (2,250 s f) Circulation desk area 45' x 50'
- (1,225 s f) North wing..... 35' x35'
- (5,950 s f) West stack wing..... 85' x 70'
- (4,200 s f) Lyon wing.....35' x 120'
- (3,600 s f) Daniel Smiley wing.... 30' x 120'

Full basements are under each section of the library
Estimated square footage is 22,750 per floor .



A. H. Smiley Public Library
built in 1898
Redlands, California



built 1920

built 1926



85'

REFERENCE WING

WEST STACK WING

built 1930

BUILT 1907

OUTSIDE WALK-COVERED PORTICO

MAGAZINES

NEW BOOKS

WESTERNS SCI. FI.

NORTH WING

— ORIGINAL STRUCTURE 1898