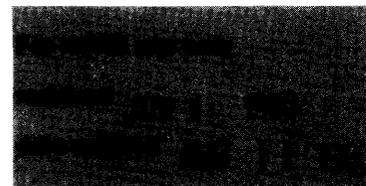


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Lewistown Carnegie Library

and/or common Lewistown City Hall

**2. Location**

street & number 701 W. Main St. \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Lewistown \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 2nd

state Montana code 30 county Fergus code 027

**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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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 checked="" 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: Library

**4. Owner of Property**

name City of Lewistown

street & number City Hall, 312 4th Ave. So.

city, town Lewistown \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Montana

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Fergus County Courthouse

street & number 712 W. Main

city, town Lewistown, \_\_\_\_\_ state Montana

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

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**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 Lewistown Library is a single building placed on two lots and was constructed in 1905. The building is constructed of rough face local sandstone, handcut and laid by Croatian stone masons. The stones were cut in various sizes and placed in a random pattern. The overall shape is square with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  stories above grade and  $\frac{1}{2}$  story below grade.

Concrete steps lead up to the main entrance, flanked on each side by 2-6 foot high, hand rubbed sandstone columns which in turn support large hand rubbed sandstone blocks that form the foundation for a large porch overhang with the words "Carnegie Library" and the year 1905 incised in a large stone running the full length of the porch. The entrance contains a large oak double door, the top of which contains a semi-circular transom above which is an arch of fitted handcut sandstone blocks. The original Cortright metal shingles have been replaced, however, the decorative galvanized iron roof edging was retained and was replaced. This same material surrounds the building just below the eaves and contains a wreath and medalion motif. The building's two chimneys are in a state of disrepair and show signs of having been plastered over in the past.

The interior of the building is most notable for the oak window casings and the oak columns that support the roof eliminating the need for interior bearing walls, leaving the space mostly open which gives the feeling of a much larger building than there actually is.

An addition called the Bush Memorial was constructed in 1960 and is made of local high quality brick. Since it is constructed on a side hill portion of the property, it does not conflict with the overall visual impact of the main 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"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1905-06 **Builder/Architect** T.J. Tubb and George Tubb

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Lewistown City Library is historically and architecturally significant because it was built of local hard sandstone that was split, cut, polished and placed by Croatian stone masons in 1905-06. The large number of stone buildings that were being constructed in Lewistown in the early 20th Century attracted a sizable community of Croatian craftsmen who not only constructed the buildings but quarried, cut and transported the stone as well. These craftsmen built most of the early stone buildings in Lewistown, Montana from 1899-1913.

The contractor and architect of the main library was T.J. Tubb, who was the leading contractor in Lewistown during the early 1900's. With the help of his brother, George Tubb, a highly qualified carpenter, T.J. Tubb was responsible for the design and plan of the major library building. No architect was hired.

It should be pointed out that the library was built with a \$10,000 donation by Andrew Carnegie. The site or the location was valued at \$2,000, but the owner, George M. Stafford, a public spirited citizen offered the site for \$600.00 instead. This amount was subscribed by thirty-six prominent local citizens to match the donation given by Carnegie. Also, they met the stipulation of providing another \$1,000 to be used for maintenance.

In 1916, new double acting front doors were designed by Link & Haire, prominent early day Montana Architects. The original design in the woodwork was left unchanged.

Because of limited book space, an adult section, the Busch Memorial Public Library, was added in 1959. Chandler C. Cohagen of Billings was the architect. This addition was built on the northeast slope of the library ground without changing the style and design of the adjoining library.

Accommodating over 14,000 volumes, this structure is made of local brick made of very high quality clay. The pioneer Croatian craftsmen, it should be mentioned, had passed on by this time. Their stone craftsmanship was no longer available. Hence, it was impossible to construct the addition in native hand cut stone to match the original building. However, since the adjoining adult section could be built to the side on a slope, the original design of the first structure remains unaltered.

The Busch Memorial Public Library was built with funds given by the late Mrs. George (Dena Busch and administered without charge by Oscar O. Mueller. Highly qualified and well known, Mueller was also a recognized Montana historian. His thirty year participation with the local library is noteworthy.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Montana Magazine of Western History - Winter 1978  
 Fergus Co. Democrat - Jan. 21, 1905  
 Fergus Co. Argus - July 7, 1905, Sept. 12, 1905, Oct. 31, 1905  
 Articles of Agreement - T.J. Tubb & Library Board

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 **UTM NOT VERIFIED**  
 Quadrangle name Lewistown Quadrangle scale 15 minutes

**UMT References**

**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

A 

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

  
 C 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

  
 E 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

  
 G 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

  
 D 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

  
 F 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

  
 H 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

**Verbal boundary description and justification**

Lots 1 and 2 of Block 17, Staffords Addition to the City of Lewistown. Dimensions of this tract are 100'x90' facing on the 700 block of Main Street in Lewistown.  
 Sec. 15, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$  T.15N., R.18E.

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

state	<u>None</u>	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title John Hughes, Planning Director & Anna Zellick Historian  
 organization Lewistown City-County Planning Board date \_\_\_\_\_  
 street & number Box 739 - Fergus Co. Courthouse telephone 406-538-9046  
 city or town Lewistown state Montana

# 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 *[Signature]*  
 title *[Signature]* date 5-29-80

For NCHPS use only  
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
 Keeper of the National Register *[Signature]* 5/11/80  
 Attach: *[Signature]* 11/2/80