CITY, TOWN

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 31 1978

STATE

DATE ENTERED 001 2 2 1979

NAME HISTORIC AND/OR COMMON LOCATION STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN STATE CLASSIFICA	Carnegie Library Carnegie Library 241 S. Anaheim Bl Anaheim California	VICINITY OF	NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTR 39	
AND/OR COMMON LOCATION STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN	Carnegie Library 241 S. Anaheim Bl	VICINITY OF	CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	
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CITY, TOWN	Anaheim	VICINITY OF	CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	
STATE		CODE	CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	
	California	CODE	17	ICT
CLASSIFICA'		06	county Orange	CODE 059 ~
	TION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP		PRESENT USE	
	PUBLIC	X_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
_	_PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
	_вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENC
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT _	_IN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED	$\mathbf{x}_{GOVERNMENT}$	SCIENTIFIC
_	_BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTEDNO	INDUSTRIAL MILITARY	TRANSPORTATIONOTHER:
OWNER OF P	PROPERTY City of Anaheim			V
	Oldy of Anancin			
STREET & NUMBER	204 E. Lincoln			
CITY, TOWN	Anaheim	VICINITY OF	California	
LOCATION C	F LEGAL DESCR	RIPTION		
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS,ETC.	Orange County Rec	orders Office		
STREET & NUMBER	630 N. Broadway S	t. Room 101		
CITY, TOWN	Santa Ana		STATE California	
REPRESENTA	ATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS		
TÎTLE	None			
DATE		FEDERAL	STATECOUNTYLOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS				

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

X_GOOD

__FAIR

__DETERIORATED
__RUINS
__UNEXPOSED

__UNALTERED _X _ALTERED XORIGINAL SITE
__MOVED DATE_____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The exterior of this brick and gunite building remains virtually unchanged in appearance since 1908. A semi-circular addition on the back, in the same materials, was built in 1910. The colors are original. The gunite is typical of John Austin's work. The high entrance was designed because of Anaheim's early day flood problem.

The plaster ornamentation on the frieze and on two of the four perch pellars has been removed. The dentil trim is still there, however, under a wooden covering. The lights on the steps are being stored in the city yard. Two windows on the front and one on the side have been stuccoed over and a door and canopy added to create the entrance to the old children's library, which was located in the half basement.

Certain alterations have been made for public safety purposes and to comply with building and safety codes. A stairway added to the rear with a fire exit into the upper story has a metal railing. Three entrances and exits were added to the lower story. In addition to the above mentioned children's entrance, two more fire doors were added, one to the north and one to the west.

The interior stairs and vestibule are the same with the exception of the paint on the woodwork and wainscotting, which were originally stained and varnished. Several temporary partitions have been added to the other rooms. However, the original paneling on the lower portion of the walls and the original woodwork remains. These have been painted. The two inch wide oak floor boards are covered with carpeting. The light fixtures are gone. The remaining bookshelves in the semi-circular room have been painted and doors added to the top portions between the windows.

The restrooms were remodeled and a furnace with a myriad of pipes in the lower floor's ceiling added. The original heating was done by a potbellied stove in the center of the reading room. Some of the interior furnishings are stored at the city yard. The city clerk has records of the sale of the other items in 1962 and these people might be prevailed upon to donate these things if the library becomes a museum in three years.

If the museum plan materializes, the partitions will be removed, the wainscotting and picture rail stripped and restored to its former state. The floors would be refinished. An effort is being made to obtain the same type of light fixture from a store being demolished.

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	HECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
_PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
_1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
_1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
_1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	X _EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
_1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
_1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
£1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
SPECIFIC DAT	ES 11/21/08 Laying corners		HITECT John Austin, Lo	os Angeles

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The lasting impact of its library upon the lives of the citizens of a thriving, active community is an obvious one. Serving Anaheim citizens for fifty-five years, this Carnegie Library was erected in 1908. During those years, several generations of children improved their reading skills and countless adults were aided in their pursuit of knowledge and enjoyment. The Anaheim Library was unique in that most of the early books were in German, a neccesity in this community with its rich German heritage.

In 1974, the Anaheim Cultural Arts Commission sent the following Resolution to the City Council:

"The Anaheim Cultural Arts Commission, after considerable research and interviews with knowledgable citizens of Anaheim, wishes to request the honorable members of the Anaheim City Council to take immediate and positive action to save the Old Anaheim Library on the northwest corner of Broadway and Anaheim Blvd. The historical significance of this building warrants the attention of the City Council before considering any action on the redevelopment of downtown Anaheim."(1)

The council members each verbally agreed that the library should be saved and referred the matter to the city attorney. The Personnel Department of the city of Anaheim presently occupies this building and will continue to do so until the new city hall is completed in approximately three years.

This building is the only surviving Carnegie Library in Orange County. Fullerton, Santa Ana, Orange, and Huntington Beach also received Carnegie grant, but these buildings are no longer standing. The original purpose of the grant was to "provide a library to help in the improvement of mankind."

Anaheim's Carnegie Library wad dedicated November 21, 1908. The library system was already in operation in Anaheim, having been originally housed in Bruce's Candy Store. Anaheim considered means of enlisting Carnegie's aid as early as 1901, and again in 1906 and 1907. In August of 1907, seventy-five citizens of Anaheim voluntarily gave the city \$2,652.50 to buy the property for the library at the corner of Broadway and S. Los Angeles Sts. (now Anaheim Blvd.). The city recieved a grant of \$10,000 from Andrew Carnegie for the Building of a new public library Facility. Anaheim also agreed to spend not less \$1,000 a year to maintain it. On July 15, 1907, the deed and a certificate of title were conveyed to the city of Anaheim. The Trustees for the city adopted a resolution showing such acceptance for the purpose of the erection of a public library.

John Austin of Austin, Field and Fry of Los Angeles, was chosen as architect for the building. The corner stone, laid on November 12, 1908, was a copper box It contained, among other things, a copy of a local newspaper dated April 13, 1895, because this date marked the ceremonies of the city's first power plant and the town trustees could think of no more important event in the town's history.

The first custodian of the books and janiter was hired for \$50 a month. In

⁽¹⁾ From minutes of November 12, 1974 City Council Meeting.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGR	RAPHICAL REFER	RENCES	
1. Minutes of Anahe:	im City Council meet	ing of 11-12-74, city clerks	office 20% E.
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3. Also. Sept. 1968.	nutes, Micro-Films o	of Anaheim Bullitens of Dec. 1 correspondense all obtained	928.
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Deeds a rectangular par	rcel. Front: Corne	r of Anaheim Blvd. and Breadw	
		Broadway St.: 132.50 Ft.	
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



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1910, however, he requested a raise of \$2 a day and was turned down. Miss Jean Adams accepted the job for the said \$50 a month. She served until 1913 when Miss Elizabeth Calnon was chosen as librarian. She served in this capacity for forty years, retiring in 1953.

In December of 1928, the twentieth anniversary of the Carnegie was observed. Miss Calnon was head librarian with five assistants. The library new owned 12,300 volumes and was the envy of the other Southland libraries.

Another long time employee of the library system was Miss Elva Haskett, who became children's librarian in 1925 and continued to serve until 1962. A lady of patience and gentleness, she taught many Anaheim children to read. The Haskett Branch of the public library system is named for her.

In 1964, the new Central Library was built on the corner of Harbor and Broadway. The doors of the old library closed for the last time on the reading room with its rocking chairs, the oak circulation desk, and the comfortable, homey atmosphere that so many Anaheimers had considered such an important part of their lives.

The library served as a senior citizens center until 1966 when the Personnel Department moved from old Gity Hall. At that time, partitions were added, woodwork painted, floors carpeted, some walls paneled, furniture removed, and lighting fixtures replaced. The building is being maintained by the city. No official plans have been made for its use after the Personnel Dept. moves in approximately three years. There is, however, a campaign starting to take positive steps toward establishment of a museum in this building.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CARNEGIE LIBRARY, 241 South Anaheim Boulevard, Anaheim, Orange County, California

Supplemental information: Architectural Significance

The old Carnegie Library in Anaheim is an excellent representative of its type and period, and is the product of an important Southern California architect of the early 20th century. It is also one of the few surviving historic structures in the old commercial core of Anaheim, which now has been almost totally removed by demolition for redevelopment activities.

The building is a handsome statement of the architectural spirit of its time. The skillful handling of its scale, proportions, materials and classical stylistic elements create an image highly "appropriate" for a public institution of the early 20th century. It is the only building in Anaheim to have been designed by well-known Los Angeles architect, John C. Austin. Its neo-classical facade is impressive and elegant. It blends well with almost any style of architecture and will always be able to be considered a graceful, functional and well-designed building. The combination of gunite and glazed brick is unique in Anaheim. The Corinthian columns which flank the entrance are of an unusual design. Two of these column tops need to be restored, but two are in good shape. The building has been altered very little. The interior is quite functional with large, airy rooms and many windows.

John Austin, an Englishman by birth, started as an architect in 1894, and was associated with Frederic M. Ashley from 1912 to 1937. He designed and supervised the construction of the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, the California State Building, St. Vincent's Hospital, Griffith Park Observatory, and St. Paul's Church in Los Angeles. His was one of three firms to design and supervise the building of the Los Angeles City Hall. He served on several Presidential committees and was active in several civic organizations. A Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, he served a term as president of the Southern California Chapter. He was a past president of the State Board of Architectural Examiners.