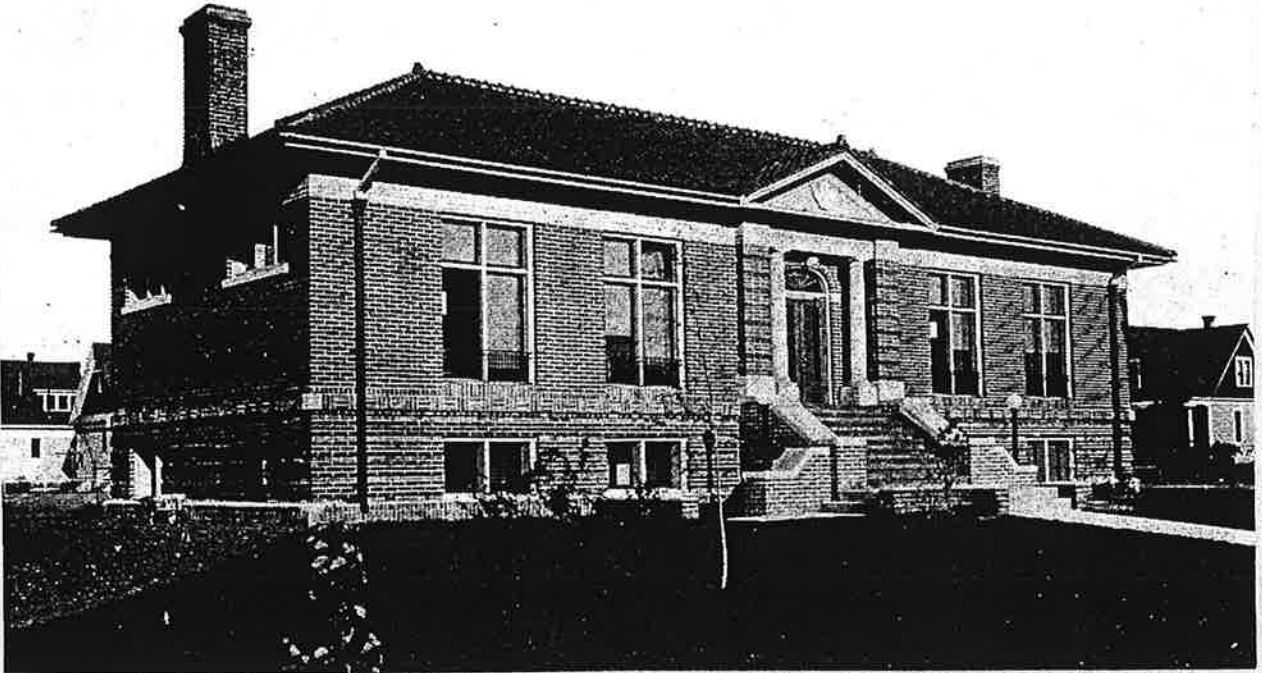


# East Side Branch Library

*25 S. Altamont Street  
Spokane, WA 99202*

BUILT IN 1913



*Listed on the Spokane, Washington State, & National Registers of Historic Places*

# Spokane Register of Historic Places Nomination

Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Office, City Hall, Sixth Floor  
808 W. Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, WA 99201

## 1. Name of Property

Historic Name **EAST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY**

## 2. Location

Street & Number 25 South Altamont Street  
City, State, Zip Code Spokane, WA 99202  
Parcel Number 35211.0411

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both		<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> residential
	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 Carol & Gerald Santantonio  
(Tripple K Family Trust)  
Street & Number 1715 N. West Point Road  
City, State, Zip Code Spokane, WA 99201  
Telephone Number/E-mail 325-5129

## 5. Location of Legal Description

Courthouse, Registry of Deeds Spokane County Courthouse  
Street Number 1116 West Broadway  
City, State, Zip Code Spokane, WA 99260  
County Spokane

## 6. Representation of Existing Surveys

Title City of Spokane Historic Landmarks Survey  
Date Federal\_\_\_\_ State\_\_\_\_ County\_\_\_\_ Local 1979  
Location of Survey Records Spokane Historic Preservation Office

*Final draft recommended for listing on May 19, 2004*

**7. Description**

<b>Architectural Classification</b> (see nomination, section 8)	<b>Condition</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent <input type="checkbox"/> good <input type="checkbox"/> fair <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> ruins <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	<b>Check One</b> <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered  <b>Check One</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site <input type="checkbox"/> moved & date _____
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**8. Spokane Register Categories and Statement of Significance**

**Applicable Spokane Register of Historic Places Categories: Mark "x" on one or more for the categories that qualify the property for the Spokane Register listing:**

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Spokane history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method or construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory history.

*Narrative statement of significance is found on one or more continuation sheets.*

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

*Bibliography is found on one or more continuation sheets.*

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property	Less than one acre.
Verbal Boundary Description	Kaufman's Addition, Lots 11-12, Block 4.
Verbal Boundary Justification	Nominated property includes entire parcel and urban legal description.

**11. Form Prepared By**

Name and Title	Linda Yeomans, Preservation Planner Consultant
Organization	Historic Preservation Planning
Street, City, State, Zip Code	501 West 27 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Spokane, WA 99203
Telephone Number	509-456-3828
Email Address	<a href="mailto:lkyeomans1@aol.com">lkyeomans1@aol.com</a>
Date Final Nomination Heard	19 May 2004

**12. Additional Documentation**

Map	City/County of Spokane current plat map.
Photographs and Slides	20 B&W prints, 20 color slides.

13. Signature of Owner(s)

Name Gerald Santonio

Name Carol Santonio

14. For Official Use Only

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Attest \_\_\_\_\_

Date Heard \_\_\_\_\_ City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Commission Decision \_\_\_\_\_ Approved as to Form  
Assistant City Attorney Michael P. ...

Council/Board Action \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**We hereby certify that this property has been listed in the Spokane Register of Historic Places.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY ADMINISTRATOR, City of Spokane  
or

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR, Spokane County Commissioners

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR, Spokane City/County Historic Landmarks Commission

Muse Brown

\_\_\_\_\_  
OFFICER, Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Officer  
Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Office  
Sixth Floor, City Hall, W. 808 Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, WA 99201

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

Built in 1913 on the corner of First Avenue and Altamont Street in the Union Park neighborhood of East Central Spokane, the East Side Branch of the Spokane Public Library is a well-preserved example of the building type, "Carnegie library," as described in the National Register Multiple Property Documentation (MPD) nomination, *Carnegie Libraries of Washington State*.<sup>1</sup> The library is a one-story brick masonry building with a raised foundation and a low-pitched hip roof. Formality of design is established through Neoclassical-style influence which is emphasized by the building's symmetrical fenestration patterns, brick cladding, and center front entrance. Regarded as a focal point of the building, the front entrance is accentuated with classic columns, pilasters, and a pediment. In excellent condition with few exterior alterations, the building retains significant historic integrity of original location, design, materials, workmanship, and association as a public branch library.

**CURRENT APPEARANCE & CONDITION***Site*

The East Side Branch Library is sited on the northeast corner of the intersection formed by East First Avenue and South Altamont Street, in East Central Spokane. It is built on level ground in the center of Lots 11 and 12, Block 4, Kaufman's Addition, which form Spokane County parcel # 35211.0411.<sup>2</sup> The parcel measures 142 feet wide and 100 feet deep. The property is surrounded by a mixture of domestic architecture built from the early 1900s to 1950, and commercial infill built during the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. Planted just after the building was erected, mature maple trees and a grass lawn encircle the building.

*Exterior Façade*

The East Side Branch Library follows a rectangular footprint that measures 70 feet wide and 28 feet deep. The building has a low-pitched hip roof with widely overhanging boxed eaves and a terra cotta frieze. The frieze forms a wide horizontal band and is embellished with egg-and-dart detailing. The roof is covered with red glazed, barrel-shaped ceramic tile. Two brick chimneys extend from the center of the roof on the north and south roof slopes. The brick masonry building has 18-inch-thick brick walls and is clad in red-colored face brick laid in stretcher bond. The raised red brick foundation is accentuated with a rusticated design. A red brick, soldier-course belt course defines the lower edge of the foundation at grade, and a second brick, basket-weave patterned belt course separates the foundation from the first floor of the building. The belt course at grade projects slightly forward and is capped with a sloped concrete dripstone. The building's fenestration is symmetrically balanced on all four elevations. A center front facade entrance is flanked by tall wood-sash casement windows which are located on the first floor and in the raised foundation. The windows on the foundation wall extend below grade and are protected by poured concrete window wells.

The façade of the East Side Branch Library faces west along South Altamont Street and reflects strong Neoclassical-style influence. The dominant architectural feature of the façade is a formal front entrance. Built on a raised foundation that measures six feet above grade, the building's front entrance is located at the top of splayed concrete steps that rise to the front door. Brick porch walls form a stepped design and flank the steps. The porch walls are capped with coping made of poured concrete. The front entrance of the building has two glazed doors that are framed in solid honey-colored oak. An arched transom light with a leaded-glass spider web design caps the front entrance. Large round columns made of concrete flank the front door, and rusticated brick pilasters flank the columns. A classic pediment projects over the front entrance. A terra cotta cornice and frieze band separate the top of the front entrance from the pediment and contains a panel with incised, carved letters that proclaim the original name of the building: "EAST SIDE BRANCH." Two tall wood-sash casement windows flank each side of the center front entrance on the first floor. The glazing in the windows is divided by a wide vertical mullion and a wide horizontal muntin that intersect to form a cross. The windows are protected by wrought iron balconettes. Below the first-floor windows are basement-level casement windows that flank the front steps. The basement windows located south of the steps extend below grade, and are protected by concrete window wells. The basement windows located north of the steps extend to grade-level only and are protected by a concrete lug sill. An exterior entrance is located under the front steps, and opens into the basement level of the building. Brick-lined concrete steps rise from the lower-level entrance up to grade on either side of the porch walls.

### ***North, South, and East Elevations***

The north elevation of the building faces a paved parking lot. Fenestration patterns are symmetrical and include a ribbon of three small casement windows on the northeast corner and a ribbon of identical casement windows on the northwest corner. The windows are located high on the exterior wall just under the roof eave. Located in the foundation wall, a pair of casement windows is located under the windows on the east end of the north elevation, and a metal coal-chute door is located in the foundation under the windows on the west end of the north elevation. The south elevation of the building faces First Avenue and is shaded by mature maple trees. Fenestration patterns are symmetrical and include casement windows that match those on the north elevation. The east elevation of the building has symmetrical fenestration patterns. All of the windows are casement units except for one large double-hung, wood-sash window in the center of the first floor. Two concrete stairwells at grade are covered with wood decking, which is painted dark brown.

### ***Interior***

Oak doors with plate-glass glazing open from the building's facade to a front entry vestibule. The vestibule features a hexagonal white ceramic tile floor, lathe-and-plaster walls, honey-colored oak woodwork, and oak tongue-and-groove ceiling paneling. A c. 1920s light fixture is mounted flush with the ceiling. Two narrow oak paneled doors are

located on the north wall of the vestibule. The east door opens to a small broom closet. The west door opens to a 24-inch-wide staircase which winds up to a small, narrow storage room which is located above the vestibule. The room is finished with lathe-and-plaster walls and ceiling, and contains a wall-mounted white porcelain wash basin and a door above the basin that opens to an unfinished attic. The floor and stairs and are made of vertical grain fir.

Multi-paned French doors made of oak open from the vestibule to a lobby, which is located in the center of the building on the first floor. The ceilings are 12 feet high and are defined with 10-inch-deep crown molding made of honey-colored oak. The floor is made of vertical grain fir and is finished in a dark mahogany color. A long hallway runs from the north end of the building to the south end of the building, passing through the lobby. Three offices are located north of the lobby, and two offices and a board room are located south of the lobby. A focal point of the board room is a center fireplace, which is located on the south wall. The fireplace has a red brick surround and red brick hearth. An oak mantle highlights the fireplace, and wall sconces flank the mantle. The floor molding and crown molding in this room measure 10 inches deep and are made of oak, the floor is made of vertical grain fir, and the ceilings are 12 feet high. A multi-paned oak door is located on the north wall of the room and opens into the hall.

A stairwell, which is located in the northeast corner of the building, winds down to the basement. The stairwell is made of vertical grain fir finished in a mahogany color. The basement of the building is finished and is divided into seven small offices, two bathrooms, a storage room, and a furnace room.

### **ORIGINAL APPEARANCE**

The original exterior design of the building is pictured in a black-and-white photograph taken in 1914 just after the building was built.<sup>3</sup> The photograph reveals the original façade which is intact today, including original design, materials, workmanship, and architectural elements.

According to descriptions given by early library patrons and by a previous owner, the original interior plan of the East Side Branch Library included two large rooms on the first floor, and a mechanical room, staff room, two restrooms, and a large multi-purpose room in the basement. The original woodwork in the first floor was honey-colored oak, which can still be found in existing crown molding, floor molding in the south board room, the vestibule, and on window sashes. The original floor on the first floor is fir. The woodwork in the stairwell and in the finished basement rooms (not the mechanical room) was finished fir.

### **MODIFICATIONS**

The exterior of the East Side Branch Library is remarkably intact with very few modifications. Two exterior lamp posts, which flanked the front steps, were removed in

the 1970s. In 1982 two concrete stairwells which are located on the rear, east elevation of the building were covered with wood decking.<sup>4</sup> Sometime after 1982 the south wall of the basement-level porch, which is located under the front steps of the building, was partially enclosed with brick and a wrought iron grille for security reasons.

The interior of the building remained unchanged from 1914 until 1979 when library bookshelves, furniture, and materials were all moved from the East Side Branch to the East Central Community Center at 500 S. Stone. In 1981 the interior of the East Side Branch Library was rehabbed for use as an office. Five small offices were built on the first floor with a lobby in the center of the building. The south board room with the fireplace was not changed. All of the windows on the first floor and the basement level were made energy efficient with the addition of storm windows, which are screw-mounted to the inside of the original wood-sash casement windows. The basement level was also finished for use as office space with seven small offices. The wood-then-coal-then-gas-fired boiler was removed and a forced-air gas-fired furnace was installed in the basement. A gas insert was installed in the fireplace in the south board room on the first floor. The finished fir woodwork in the basement was painted. Original light fixtures throughout the building were replaced (except for the fixture in the vestibule).

In summary, the *exterior* of the building remains intact, retaining original design features, materials, workmanship, and association as a library, which is especially recognized by the terra cotta name panel above the front entrance of the building. Due to its high level of exterior integrity, the East Side Branch Library retains excellent exterior architectural significance.



Areas of Significance	Education, Architecture, Community Planning & Development
Period of Significance	1913-1954
Significant Date	1913
Architect	Albert Held
Builder	Galbraith & Sons

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The East Side Branch Library was built in 1913 with funds provided by United States philanthropist, Andrew Carnegie, and is tangible testament of his world-wide influence. Included in the National Register Multiple Property Documentation (MPD) nomination, *Carnegie Libraries in Washington State*, and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982 as a contributing property of the MPD, Spokane’s East Side Branch Library is an exemplary model of the building type, “Carnegie library.” The structure was designed by prominent Spokane architect Albert Held and was built by Spokane contractor, Galbraith & Sons. For 66 years from 1913 to 1979, the East Side Branch Library served the East Central Spokane community and residents in the Spokane Valley. During its period of significance from 1913 to 1954, the property demonstrated significance in the areas, “architecture,” “education,” and “community planning & development,” as an educational center, community hub, and the second of four Carnegie libraries built in Spokane. Historically and architecturally significant, the East Side Branch Library is eligible for listing on the Spokane Register of Historic Places under Categories A and C.

**HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

According to historic records, Spokane’s library history reaches back to 1880 when plans for the city’s first library were drawn. Socials and fundraisers were held, officers were elected, and books, and money for purchasing books, were allocated. In 1891 the Union Library Association was formed by Spokane labor unions dedicated to the foundation of libraries in the city. They were helped by the Woman’s Club of Spokane, the Spokane Sorosis Club, and prominent professional and business men and women of the city. In 1894 the Spokane City Library was established in Spokane’s City Hall. It was financed by a \$25-per-month dedicated fund and from fines and subsidies collected from library patrons. The library grew but getting to the library was difficult for men, women, and children who had to cross a threatening “gauntlet of...saloons, variety theaters, gambling halls, and houses of ill fame.”<sup>5</sup>

A permanent site on which a library building could be built was sought. In 1903 American industrialist-turned-philanthropist, Andrew Carnegie, promised to donate \$75,000 (followed by another \$10,000) for the construction of a public library in Spokane if the City would furnish a site and appropriate a minimum of \$7,500 a year for the management and maintenance of the building. Responding to the need for a suitable building site, Spokane mining millionaire, Amasa B. Campbell, purchased property for

Spokane's first public library building, and one year later in 1904, construction of the Spokane Carnegie Library at West First Avenue and South Cedar Street was complete. The public enthusiastically embraced their new library and by 1910, conditions in the library were over-crowded. In reaction, "branches" of the main library evolved and were located in corners and small spaces in both public and private buildings throughout the city. In 1908 a branch system was formally established in which small branch libraries were housed in drug stores, grocery markets, and churches. For example, the Union Park Branch Library was located in Fair Pharmacy & Drug Store, 2628 E. Sprague Avenue, in East Central Spokane.<sup>6</sup>

As Spokane's population reached 100,000 by 1910, and residential sections of the city expanded to outlying areas called "suburbs," the need for more and more branch libraries increased. Library administrators envisioned self-contained library buildings for each branch and applied for Carnegie grants to cover the cost. The first grant was awarded when Carnegie gifted Spokane with \$70,000, which was given to cover the construction of two branch libraries. Instead, the City chose to use \$35,000 for the construction of the Heath Branch Library (located in the Mission Park Neighborhood) and split the remaining \$35,000 for the erection of two smaller branch libraries: the Corbin Park Branch Library and the Union Park Branch Library.<sup>7</sup>

### *The East Side Branch Library*

Establishing and purchasing the site for the East Side Branch Library was a difficult challenge as reported in the following account:

The two lots at the corner of First and Crestline had been tendered as the location for the [East Side Branch] library, but not by the [property] owner. A group of Union Park citizens, headed by E. P. Galbraith, were attempting to raise the \$6,000 asked for the lots, but were unsuccessful. Cheaper lots were then considered, and on May 7, 1913, the Library Board chose the corner of First and Altamont as the most suitable of the sites suggested by the Union Park group. The lot, owned by Mr. Henry B. Arnold, was priced at \$3,500—still beyond the reach of the group. They petitioned the city for an appropriation, but so did the residents of the Corbin Park district, who were having just as much difficulty in arranging for a site for their library. The [Spokane] City Council agreed to appropriate \$2,000 for each... [The sum of] \$2,000 was less than Union Park expected. Their problem was solved when Mr. Arnold offered to *reduce* the price of the lots to \$2,525, leaving only \$525 to be raised. Within two weeks, \$675 was collected and turned over to the Library Board.<sup>8</sup>

Spokane Building Permit #4691, dated September 12, 1913, listed the estimated construction cost of the East Side Branch Library at \$11,870. Construction commenced

immediately and the cornerstone was laid by library official, Mrs. A. E. House, on November 22, 1913.<sup>9</sup> In commemoration of the event, issues of local newspapers, library annual reports, and other publications from the library were sealed in a box which was placed in the cornerstone of the building.

On the evening of April 4, 1914, the East Side Branch Library was officially opened and publicly honored with due pomp-and-circumstance, including violin solos, meditations, and remarks made by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Spokane Public Library. Special programs were printed and distributed to all who attended the event. The programs reported that “the site for the East Side Branch was purchased with funds contributed by residents of the neighborhood, and [by] an appropriation of \$2,000 made by the City [of Spokane].” Credit was given to Andrew Carnegie, who gifted \$17,500 for the cost of construction and furnishings for the building. The printed programs boasted that the library was stocked with a “book capacity of 6,000 volumes” and noted that it would be open Monday through Saturday from 2:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. The librarian was listed as Miss Muriel Wright.<sup>10</sup>

Along with the Heath and Corbin Park Branch Libraries, the East Side Branch Library became a popular destination for East Central Spokane residents. The Spokane Public Library’s *Annual Report 1914* reported that “the branch reading rooms” were “usually filled evenings with students and people” who were “attracted by the excellence of the periodical lists” (p. 14). The report further stated:

The use made of the [libraries’ lecture] halls has been gratifying from the start. Boys’ clubs meet at all of them. The City Federation of Women’s Organizations meets in the three buildings in rotation. Parent-teachers’ associations, grade schools, church societies, political candidates and clubs, groups of young people, and citizens’ committees have taken advantage of the privilege (p. 14).

The East Side Branch Library was also popular with people who lived in the Spokane Valley. A November 21, 1926 *Spokesman-Review* article reported that the “growth of the industrial district at the east end of the city is increasing the patronage of the [East Side] Branch Library and is also causing a demand for more technical books. A growing number of valley residents employed in Spokane are taking books from the East Side Branch.”

The year 1979 saw an advent of changes for the East Side Branch Library. The library’s books and materials were moved to a new location five blocks south called the East Central Community Center. The 1913 library building was declared “surplus property” and put on the auction block. On August 25, 1981, the building was sold to Spokane investors and property developers James & Jan Frank and Richard & Nancy Mason for \$91,000. Through a warranty deed, the property was conveyed with an “Architectural

Façade Easement.”<sup>11</sup> The easement was written as a protective covenant that runs in perpetuity with the property, protecting the building’s original exterior facade design, materials, and workmanship.

Since 1981 the building has been in use as office space. In 1996 professional planning consultant Cathy H. Ramm and her husband Roger F. Ramm purchased the property for \$215,000 and established their office in the building. On May 2, 2003 they sold it to Gerald and Carol Santantonio for \$325,000. Carol’s advertising company, Kelly-Brady Direct, Incorporated, is currently headquartered in the building.

## **SIGNIFICANCE**

### *Category A*

Associated with the areas of significance, “education,” and “community planning & development,” the East Side Branch Library is a tangible demonstration of Spokane’s commitment to public education and community service, and reflects local and national trends in extended library services for that time. Enthusiastically embraced by the neighborhood, the library became a focal point of the East Central Spokane community and a hub for social, political, educational, religious, and philanthropic events. The library is proof of the Union Park Community’s early financial sacrifices, successful efforts, and commitment to provide a public library to residents of East Central Spokane. The adoption of the branch library system in Spokane helped guide community planning and urban development from the construction of the East Side Branch Library in 1913, to 1995 when the East Central Branch Library was built. Throughout this time period, emphasis on intellectual and social activity through the facilitation of public library services has remained a primary focus of the city and citizens of East Central Spokane.

The East Side Branch Library is historically significant for its association with Andrew Carnegie, the world-renowned philanthropist whose generosity resulted in the construction of hundreds of public libraries in the United States and in English-speaking countries throughout the world. According to historical accounts, Andrew Carnegie was born in 1835 in Scotland and came with his family to the United States when he was 12 years old. He and his family settled in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, which became one of the mining and steel capitals of the world. Working as his family’s most successful breadwinner, young Carnegie applied himself and proved to be a diligent and intelligent employee of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. His work ethics and commitment to excellence paid off and he became a successful executive. He then made a decision to concentrate his interests and goals in the iron and steel business. “He maintained absolute control over his company’s stock and was thus able to withhold dividends in prosperous years. When hard times came, he had the cash to buy out his competitors at bargain rates.”<sup>12</sup> His careful and judicious nature served him well and he built his steel company into one of the largest in the nation. In 1901, Carnegie sold his company to a group of investors organized by J. P. Morgan, and then retired from the industrial world.

He spent the next 18 years of his life devoted to charitable giving and world philanthropy.<sup>13</sup>

Andrew Carnegie is widely recognized as one of the world's most generous benefactors. His gifts and charitable contributions knew no end and consumed most of his wealth by the time he died in 1919 at the age of 84. Carnegie made benefactions that totaled more than \$350 million, leaving his heirs a "relatively modest \$10 million." He made numerous donations to colleges and universities and built the Peace Palace at the Hague, Netherlands. His best known gifts, however, were the 2,509 libraries built throughout the world. They were constructed with Carnegie's money through grants that reached more than \$56 million.<sup>14</sup> Although it is reported that Carnegie did not start the tradition of free public libraries in the United States, his gifts helped accelerate library development and provided an example to future philanthropists who followed his lead.

### *Category C*

The East Side Branch Library is architecturally significant as an excellent example of the building type, "Carnegie library," which is described in the MPD, *Carnegie Libraries in Washington State*. In order to be eligible as an example of the building type, "Carnegie library," the structure must have been financed by grant contributions from the Andrew Carnegie Foundation and it must contain some or all of the following characteristics listed in the MPD (p. 7:8):

- Rectangular plan
- One story above a daylight basement
- Brick exterior
- Hip roof
- Principal entrance in center of longer side
- Lamps flanking entrance
- Exterior stairs leading from ground level to main public area
- Elements of Classical architecture, such as pediments, columns, and cornices
- Symmetrical arrangement of windows
- Large windows in front, smaller windows on sides and in back

Noted as a fine example of a "typical Carnegie library," a c. 1914 photograph of Spokane's East Side Branch Library is pictured in the MPD (p. 7:8). The East Side Branch Library includes all of the above-listed characteristics except for one: the lamp posts pictured in the photograph that originally flanked the front entrance of the building were removed sometime during the 1970s.

According to the MPD, the *interior* of Carnegie libraries also followed a prescribed order: the first floor usually comprised the main library with one end of the room devoted to adult reading and the other end of the room devoted to children's books. The

basement held mechanical/electrical rooms, a staff room, men's and women's restrooms, and a large multi-purpose/lecture room (p. 7:9).

Before modifications were made in 1981, the original design for the interior of the East Side Branch Library revealed these elements and was a good interior example of the building type. A first-floor room on the south wall was furnished as a children's library, and the rest of the first floor was an open space devoted to adult reading. The basement level was divided into a furnace room, two restrooms, a staff room, and a large assembly and lecture hall. In 1981 after the library was moved to another location, the interior of the building was refinished with offices on the first and second floor. Many original features still exist. They include the vestibule; hexagonal ceramic floor tile; oak crown molding, doors and other woodwork; oak casement windows; the children's reading room on the first floor; fireplace; fir floors; fir woodwork in the basement level; and the original stairwell from the first floor to the basement. The interior changes to the library can be easily reversed and do not affect the historic and architectural integrity of the building. In summary, the excellent *exterior* integrity of the East Side Branch Library renders it a fine example of the building type, "Carnegie library," as described and noted in the MPD.

#### ***Albert Held, Architect***

Possessing high artistic values, the East Side Branch Library was designed by Albert Held, one of the Spokane's most accomplished professional architects. According to *Spokane Skyline: A Century of Architecture 1889-1989*, and a June 29, 1924 obituary notice in the *Spokesman-Review*, Albert Held was born in Minnesota in 1866, and in 1889 came to Spokane, where he worked until his death in 1924. He was active in city planning, served on the Spokane Park Board, and was the first architect in Spokane to join the American Institute of Architects. Noted for his fine work, Held was responsible for the designs for the Holley-Mason Building, Home Telephone Company building, and the San Marco, Amman, Breslin, and Knickerbocker Apartments. He also designed prominent single-family homes, including the Armstrong House (1022 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue), James Clark House (2308 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue), Robbins House (2425 W. Pacific Avenue), and the Moses Phelps House (2118 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue). Held's design for the East Side Branch Library is a good example of his accomplished expertise and reveals a genius for design and solid construction for which he is locally recognized.

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#### **ENDNOTES**

<sup>1</sup> Vandermeer, James H. *Carnegie Libraries in Washington State*. (Olympia: Washington State Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, 1982).

<sup>2</sup> Spokane County Assessor's Records. Spokane County Courthouse.

<sup>3</sup> *Spokane Public Library Annual Report 1914*. (Spokane: Spokane Public Library) page 14.

<sup>4</sup> City of Spokane Memorandum, 11 Jan 1982, to Bob Eugene, Spokane City Plan Examiner, Building Department, from Janice Rutherford, Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Officer.

<sup>5</sup> Gengler, Rita A. *Spokane's Public Libraries: 1880-1956*. (Spokane: Spokane Public Library).

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> *Spokane Public Library Annual Report 1914*. (Spokane: Spokane Public Library).

<sup>10</sup> "Public Opening of East Side Branch Library." (Spokane: Spokane Public Library Program, 4 April 1914).

<sup>11</sup> Spokane County Warranty Deed #567-740-8110060182, dated 24 Aug 1981.

<sup>12</sup> Vandermeer, James H. *Carnegie Libraries of Washington State*.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

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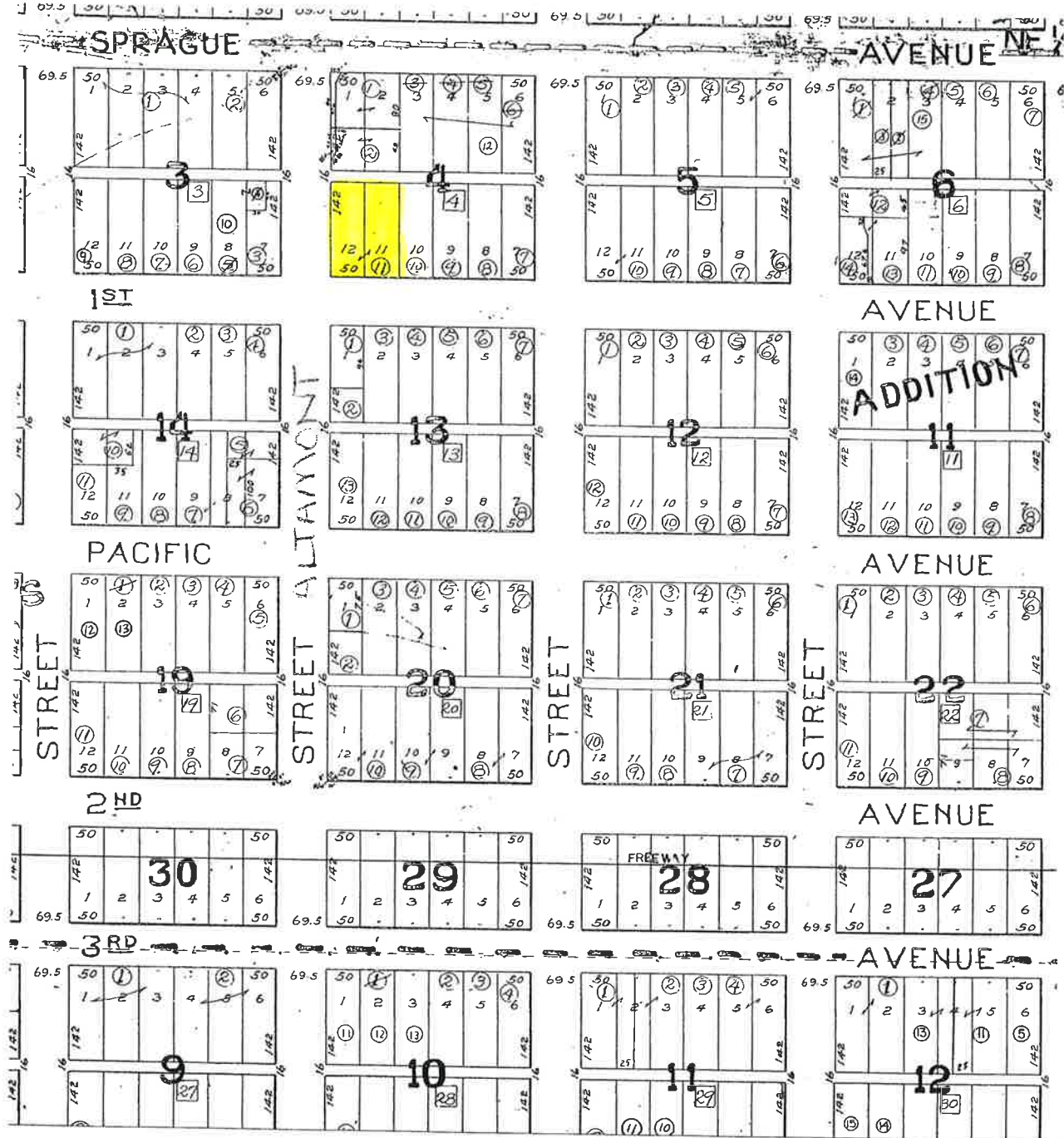


Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet  
EAST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY

Section 9

Plat Map

2004 Spokane County Plat Map of site.

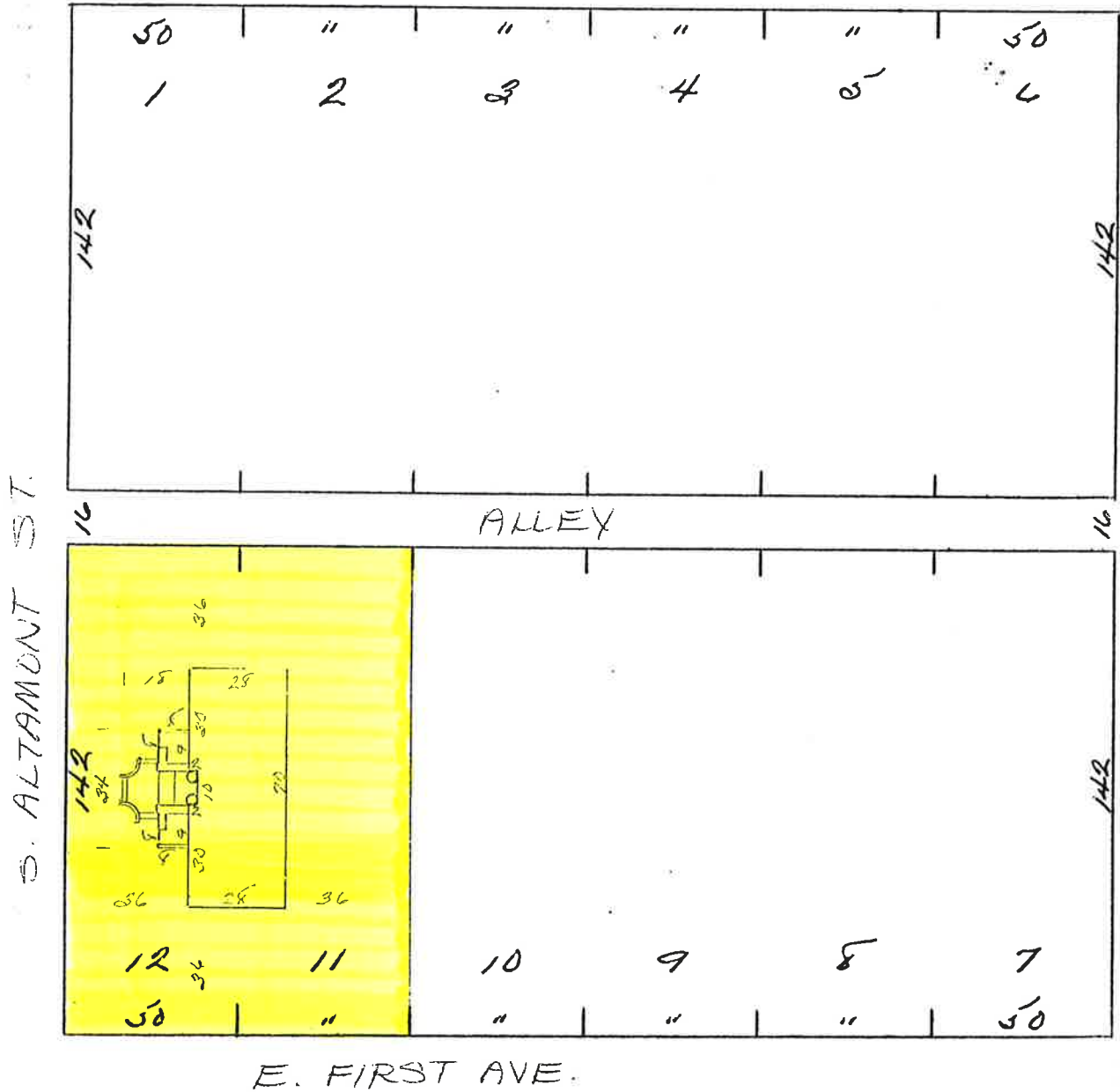


Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet  
**EAST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY**

**Section 9**

Site Plan

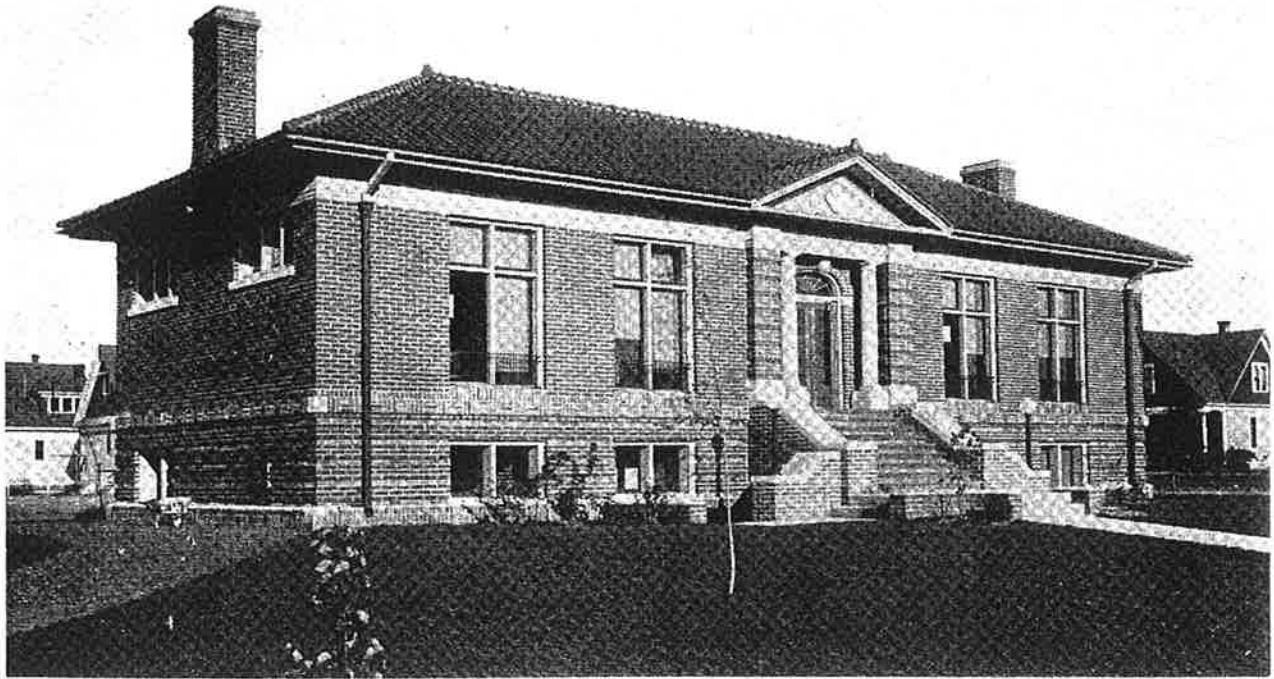
Site plan of East Side Branch Library. Source: Spokane County Assessor's Records, 2004.



Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination Continuation Sheet  
**EAST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY** **Section 9**

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Historic Photo 1      1914 photograph of building just after it was built.



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Photos 1 and 2 West façade of building; photos taken in 2004.



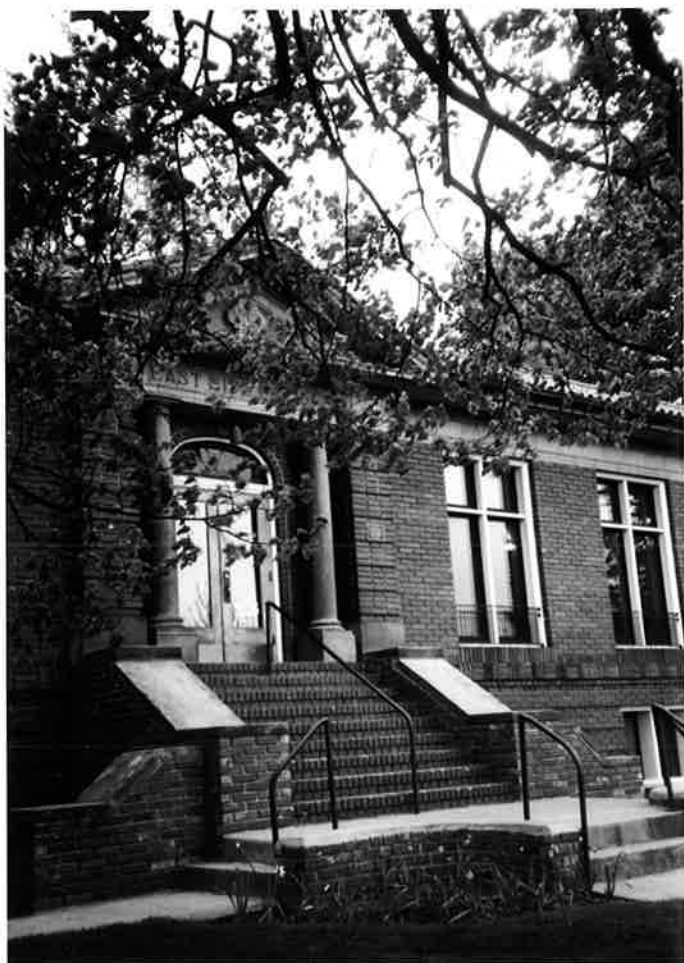
Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination Continuation Sheet  
**EAST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY** **Section 9**

Photos 3 and 4 West façade of building, photos taken in 2004.



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Photos 5 and 6 West elevation of building, photos taken in 2004.





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Photos 7, 8, and 9 South elevation of building, photos taken in 2004.



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Photos 10 and 11 East elevation of building, photos taken in 2004.





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Photos 12 and 13 North elevation of building; photos taken in 2004.



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Photos 14 and 15 North elevation of building; cornice and brickwork details.



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Photos 16 and 17 Vestibule of building; photos taken in 2004.



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Photos 18 and 19 French doors leading to vestibule; central hallway, looking north.



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Photos 20 and 21 South board room door, looking northwest; and south boardroom fireplace, looking southwest.

