DIRECTORY OF

LIBRARY BUILDINGS

IN THE

COLORADO STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES



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OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DIRECTORY OF

LIBRARY BUILDINGS

IN THE

COLORADO STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Includes Colorado properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the State Register of Historic Properties

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Front Cover Photograph
Salida Carnegie Library
National Register of Historic Places

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This activity was also partially funded by the State Historical Fund, a program of the Colorado Historical Society.

- PLEASE -RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY

The properties listed in this directory have been identified and recognized as significant cultural resources in Colorado. The majority are privately owned and may not be open to the public. Therefore, please respect the owner's privacy.

Specific locational information is not included for all of the listed properties. In some cases, private owners have requested that such information not be published.

Participating in the protection and preservation of Colorado's cultural resources presents an opportunity for all of us. If you have any questions, comments, or additional information regarding the properties in this directory, please contact our office at 303-866-3392.

HISTORIC DESIGNATION TYPES

The Colorado State Register of Historic Properties includes all properties designated under the Colorado State Register nomination process and all properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places. As an aid to determining the type of resources listed, the entries in this booklet are classified by resource type and historic designation.

State Register

Listings include buildings, structures, sites, objects, or districts designated through the Colorado State Register nomination process. A district contains a group of related sites, buildings, structures, or objects. The elements within a district are united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development. The first State Register listings occurred in 1991, though all previously listed National Register properties were automatically added to the State Register.

National Register

Listings include buildings, structures, sites, objects or districts designated through the National Register of Historic Properties nomination process. A district contains a group of related sites, buildings, structures, or objects. The elements within a district are united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development. The first National Register listings occurred in 1966.

DIRECTORY PROPERTY LISTING FORMAT

Format:

Historic Name/Names

Address or location Designation Type, Date Listed, Site Number Significance statement Example:

Delta Carnegie Public Library

536 Palmer Street State Register 12/13/1995, 5DT.441

The Delta Brick and Tile Company supplied the wonderful beige brick and tile that was used in the 1911 construction of this building. Like so many Carnegie libraries the structure is fashioned after a Neo-Greek temple. The library also contains locked bookcases for special items.

Unless otherwise noted, all photographs are from the collection of the Office of Archaeolgy and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society.

In the eyes of many community members, the establishment of public libraries, along with schools and churches, marked their towns as having achieved a major developmental plateau. A library symbolized a commitment to long-term education and community betterment. Often a local women's group spearheaded the effort to establish a library. Early libraries occasionally occupied space in a local school, town hall, or even a retail store.

The public library movement had its greatest growth with the help of Carnegie Corporation. Andrew Carnegie was instrumental in library philantrophy from 1886 until 1916. In total the Carnegie family donated some \$60 million and built over 2,509 libraries in over 1,400 communities. There were two periods of grant designation for Andrew Carnegie; the first is referred to as the "retail" period, which was from 1886 until 1897. It consisted of seven buildings in seven communities. The second period or "wholesale" period lasted between 1898 until 1919. The "wholesale" period produced 1,412 library grants. The year 1903 led the way with 203 grants. Amazingly enough, during this timeframe there were 225 library grants turned down by communities. This was mainly due to these communities inability to raise the additional 10 percent of the building funds that the Carnegie Corporation required.

There were 35 Carnegie libraries constructed in the state of Colorado. The first grant given to Colorado for a library came in 1899 in the amount of \$8,000 for the city of Grand Junction. The last grant given by the Carnegie Corporation was in 1917 to the town of Florence for \$10,000. In 1910 the city of Denver used its Carnegie library as a centerpiece for its City Beautiful plans. Of the 36 Carnegie-funded libraries built in the state, 30 survive. Today, many of the buildings continue to function as libraries. Others have taken on new uses, including city offices, the offices of a cable television company, and one was rehabilitated into a stylish bed and breakfast.

Many towns have a Carnegie library as part of their architectural heritage. Nationally the Carnegie libraries are vanishing quickly. Between the years 1910 and 1949 only 23 such libraries were demolished but this number grew

to an astonishing 120 between the years of 1950 and 1967. As of 1997 there were 377 Carnegie libraries on the National Register of Historic Places. These buildings not only symbolize the philanthropic attitudes of individuals and institutions of the 19th century but also the need of new western towns to establish civilization in their growing communities.

The buildings in this directory include those still functioning as libraries as well as those whose library days ended years ago. Either way, these buildings represent an important part of town building and community development throughout Colorado.

(Sources of information: Bobinksi, George S. *Carnegie Libraries: Their History and Impact on American Public Library Development.*Chicago: American Library Association, 1969. Jones, Theodore. *Carnegie Libraries Across America*. New York: Preservation Press, John Wiley & Sons, 1997. Site Files, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society.)



Boulder County

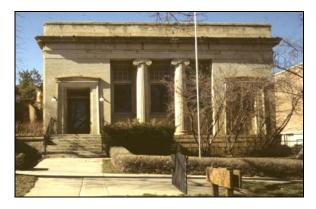
Boulder

Boulder Carnegie Library

1125 Pine Street

National Register 2/16/1979, 5BL.365

Colorado Springs architect Thomas MacLaren designed this fine example of the Neo-Classical Revival style. The building features sand-lime brick with Almont sandstone details. The facade is symmetrical around two fluted columns topped with Ionic capitals. The city completed the library in 1907. Mrs. Clara Savory was the first librarian and served the community until 1915. The building is now a center for local historical records and research.



Longmont

Longmont Carnegie Library

457 Fourth Avenue

National Register 11/3/1992, 5BL.251

In 1907 the city of Longmont received a gift of \$12,500 from the Carnegie Corporation which it matched with \$1,250. Benjamin C. Viney served as supervising architect for the one-story building. Constructed in 1912 and opened the following year, the library is of simplified Renaissance Revival style utilizing light colored brick on a sandstone foundation. Rebecca Day served until 1929 as the first librarian. This building operated as a library until 1975 when the city remodeled the space to accommodate offices.



1992

Chaffee County

Salida

Salida Public Library

495 E Street

State Register 12/13/1995, 5CF.346

The 1907 library was built for \$15,000 with the Carnegie Corporation providing \$9,000. It represents the community's efforts, most notably those of the Tuesday Evening Club, to provide a suitable structure in which to house a public library. It is architecturally significant as an example of the work of two prominent Colorado architects, Charles Thomas and Thomas MacLaren.



199

Delta County

Delta

Delta Public Library

536 Palmer Street

State Register 12/13/1995, 5DT.441

The Delta Brick and Tile Company supplied the beige brick and tile used in the 1911 construction of the library building. Like so many Carnegie libraries, architect G.R. Felmlee designed the building in a Neo-Classical style. Accent is provided by the sandstone foundation and trim. A rear 1984 addition was carefully designed by Dana, Larson, Roubal and Associates to be compatible with the original building.



1995



Denver City and County

Denver Public Library Building (Main Library) 10 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy.

National Register 12/6/1990, 5DV.3520

The original portion of the 1955 Denver Public Library, a five-story, flat-roofed, reinforced concrete frame building, with its random ashlar Indiana limestone veneer, is a significant International Style building designed by Burnham Hoyt and the firm of Fisher and Fisher. The library is the only major work by Hoyt completed in Denver in the post-World War II period and is the only one of two major surviving Hoyt projects in the International Style. Princeton, New Jersey, architect Michael Graves, with the Denver architectural firm of Klipp Colussy Jenks DuBois, designed the seven-story 1995 addition. The library is an integral component of the Civic Center historic district.



1992

William H. Smiley Branch, Berkeley Lake Park Branch, Denver Public Library

Located west of Tennyson on 46th Avenue Part of the **Berkeley Lake Park Historic District** National Register 9/17/1986, 5DV.5307

The 1918 one-story brick building has a tiled roof. It is a nice example of an English-Norman Cottage. Park French of Mountjoy, French and Frewan designed the library. Total construction cost was \$20,000. The building was one of eight Denver branch libraries funded by Andrew Carnegie.

Roger W. Woodbury, Highland Park Branch, Denver Public Library

Part of the **Highland Park Historic District** National Register 9/17/1986, 5DV.5320

Construction began in 1912 on the Italian Renaissance style library building. Well-known Denver architect J. J. B. Benedict completed the Carnegie-funded project for \$22,000. Its one-story rectangular plan and symmetrical facade is highlighted by semicircular arched windows, terra cotta trim and a hipped tile roof.



Charles E. Dickinson Branch, Denver Public Library

State Register 12/12/2001, National Register 3/28/2002, 5DV.8164

One of eight Denver branch libraries funded by Andrew Carnegie, construction was completed in 1914 for a total price of \$16,000. Designed by Maurice Biscoe, the building boasts an Italian Renaissance design with a stucco finish and a ceramic tiled hipped roof. The library once housed works of renowned Denver muralist Allen Tupper True and artist Dudley Carpenter. The art works disappeared after the library closed in 1954.



2001

Library, St. Thomas Theological Seminary 1331 S. Steele Street

National Register 7/27/1989, 5DV.729

The library building is T-shaped and designed in 20th century Lombard Gothic with brick, stone and elaborate terra cotta ornamentation and bracketed eaves. The building was constructed in 1956 from a design by John K. Monroe. Monroe previously worked for J.J.B. Benedict, the man responsible for the design of the older campus buildings.



El Paso County

Colorado Springs

Colorado School For the Deaf and Blind

33 Institute Street

State Register 3/11/1998, 5EP.2740

Opened in 1876, the school serves the deaf and blind. There are twelve contributing buildings in the historic district. The library is located in Argo Hall. Colorado Springs architect Thomas P. Barber designed Argo Hall in a Jacobean Revival style. The building was constructed in 1923. The building is made of Castle Rock Rhyolite and the raked ends of the gabled roofs are capped with rhyolite coping.



1997

Colorado Springs 21 West Kiowa Street

Colorado Springs Carnegie Public Library National Register 11/1/1996, 5EP646

This Neo-Classical design was finished in 1905. It is of cruciform plan with elaborate terra cotta trim in the pilaster capitals, spandrels, frieze and cornice, as well as the parapet and main entrance. Made of tan brick, the building has a flat roof and a full garden level basement.



1996

Gunnison County

Gunnison

Leslie J. Savage Library, Western State College State Register 3/10/1993, 5GN.2366

Denver architect Temple Hoyne Buell designed this Spanish Colonial Revival complete with elaborate terra cotta decorative work. Finished in 1938, the building has an L-shaped floor plan with a cross-gabled roof topped with a tile roof and a bell tower. Large arched windows allow ample amounts of sunlight. A three-story contemporary addition built in 1964 accommodates the school's growing attendance needs.



1993



Kiowa County

Haswell

Haswell Women's Booster Club

State Register 12/11/1996, 5KW.49

The community center is made of concrete block and stucco. The Haswell Women's Booster Club gathered donations of \$2,500 to fund the 1915 construction. Although primarily used as a community center for plays, civic functions, and athletic events there was a room dedicated as the library.



1996

Las Animas County

Trinidad

Carnegie Public Library

202 N. Animas Street

National Register 4/14/1995, 5LA.2179.21

Completed in 1904, with the help of a \$15,000 Carnegie grant, Kansas architect John G. Haskell's Neo-Classical design includes symmetrically balanced windows and a dominant central porch entry. His use of round-arched window openings with decorative moldings is a distinctive variation on the style. The sandstone was quarried locally.



1995

Logan County

Sterling

Sterling Public Library (Old Library Inn)

210 4th Street

National Register 10/20/2001, 5LO.469

Andrew Carnegie donated \$12,500 in 1915 and the library construction was completed in 1918. The building is constructed of two-toned brick and granite is used for many decorative scrolled brackets along the eaves. Architect William Cowe designed the Neo-Classical building The first librarian was Katherine Marvin. The owner rehabilitated the building in 2002 for use as a bed and breakfast.



Circa 1930

Otero County

Rocky Ford

Carnegie Public Library (Rocky Ford Museum) Sycamore Avenue between 10th and 11th streets National Register 11/7/1995, 5OT.193

Built in 1909 of beige brick, architect Walter Dubree designed the Neo-Classical building. The foundation is made of locally produced ornamental concrete blocks with a rocklike face. The north entrance is flanked by pairs of wood Doric columns. The building was in use as a library until 1976 before being converted to a local history museum.



1995

Rio Grande County

Monte Vista

Carnegie Library

120 Jefferson Street State Register 3/8/1995, National Register

4/14/1995, 5RN.513

The Carnegie Corporation donated \$10,000 in 1916 to help finance a new library for Monte Vista. Denver architect John J. Huddart designed the Colonial Revival style building. Construction was completed in 1919. The library was constructed of hard-fired red brick with two stringcourses of beige brick encircling the building. Terra cotta was used for window and door trim. In 1932, the city closed the library because it failed to operate in the black, having lost \$757.84 the previous year. The facility reopened in 1933 and continues to function as the town's library.



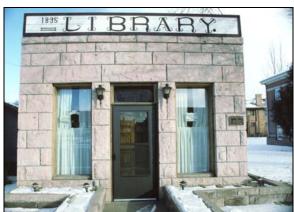
1995

Monte Vista Library

110 Jefferson Street

National Register 6/30/1995, 5RN.514

The 1895 Monte Vista library is of simple onestory rectangular design. The facade is made up of irregular sized pink rhyolite blocks. This small stone library building served as the Monte Vista library from 1895 until the Carnegie library opened in 1919. The community's library began in 1885 at the back of the Fassett Department Store.



1995

Sedgwick County

Julesburg

Julesburg Public Library

320 Cedar St.

State Register 8/8/2001, 5SW.80

Constructed in 1937, this irregular plan onestory building is made of stucco over cinderblock. The building's design is typical of the Depression era Works Progress Administration. In 1935, the Julesburg Woman's Club was instrumental in securing funding for the project by donating \$1,700 as seed money in order to apply for a federal WPA construction loan. Hazel Labaree was the first librarian.



2001

Washington County

Akron

Akron Public Library

320 Main Ave.

State Register 2/14/2001, 5WN.164

Although the town had some form of library since 1915, this library was built in 1931. Using a Mediterranean Revival design constructed out of red brick, the symmetrical plan has a hexagonal roof, round arched windows, and a distinctive corner entry. Various women's organizations were involved in securing financing for the library that was matched by the estate of Guy Sylvester Ford. Bessie Marie Annable was the first librarian in the building and served the community until 1960.



2001



Yuma County

Yuma

Yuma Public Library

217 S. Ash St.

State Register, 9/13/1995, 5YM.121

Constructed in 1930, this building was the first in the region to be built specifically as a library. The Yuma Women's Club took the lead in persuading the town's government to build a library for its 1,360 residents. The volunteer fire department opposed the funding. The fire department had recently been denied a request for new water mains. The fire department even threatened to disband if their needs were not met. In the end, the women activists succeeded in building the library and the fire department never dissolved.



1995

COLORADO STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

The Colorado State Register of Historic Properties is a listing of the state's significant cultural resources worthy of preservation for the future education and enjoyment of Colorado's residents and visitors. Properties listed in the Colorado State Register include individual buildings, structures, objects, districts and historic and archaeological sites. The Colorado State Register program is administered by the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation within the Colorado Historical Society. The Society maintains an official list of all properties included in the Colorado State Register. Properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places are automatically placed in the Colorado State Register. They may also be nominated separately to the Colorado State Register without inclusion in the National Register.

BENEFITS OF LISTING

The Colorado State Register formally recognizes properties possessing a documented level of significance and that contribute to the understanding and appreciation of the history or prehistory of a community, the state, or the nation.

By honoring such important sites, the Colorado State Register provides the following:

- Formal recognition of a property's importance to the history of the community and the state of Colorado.
- A body of information for local community planning, tourist promotion, and neighborhood revitalization.
- A sense of community history and local pride.
- Eligibility to compete for grants from Colorado's State Historical Fund. These grants may be used for acquisition and development, education, and survey and planning projects.
- Eligibility to apply for state tax credits for restoration, rehabilitation, or preservation of Colorado State Register properties.
- Limited protection from state agency actions that would affect the property. Agencies must solicit the comments of the Colorado Historical Society to assure that Colorado State Register properties are given consideration in the state planning process.

Listing in the Colorado State Register imposes no restrictions on what private property owners may do with their property. Listing does not give anyone else the right to impose restrictions, nor does it dictate the use of a property or change in zoning.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

Criteria for consideration of properties for nomination and inclusion in the Colorado State Register includes the following:

- A. The association of the property with events that have made a significant contribution to history;
- B. The connection of the property with persons significant in history;
- C. The apparent distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction, or artisan;
- D. The geographic importance of the property;
- E. The possibility of important discoveries related to prehistory or history.



NOMINATION PROCESS

Properties may be nominated to the Colorado State Register by the owner, a local government, an agency or the Colorado Historical Society. However, all nominations must contain the owner's signed and notarized approval of the nomination. The nominator must submit sufficient information to the Society on the Colorado State Register nomination form along with any accompanying documentation necessary to establish the property's historical significance and eligibility for inclusion based on Colorado State Register criteria.

When a completed nomination is received by the Society, the nomination form is reviewed for sufficiency within 14 days. Incomplete nominations are returned to the applicants for additional information. Complete nominations are scheduled for the next Colorado State Register Review Board meeting and the owners and nominators are notified as to the date, time, and location of the review board meeting.

The Colorado State Register Review Board is composed of citizen members and professionals from the disciplines of prehistoric and historic archaeology, history, architecture and architectural history. The Review Board meets at least three times a year to consider nominations. These meetings are open to the public.

At the conclusion of the Review Board meeting, the Board recommends to the Colorado Historical Society Board of Directors the approval or denial of the nominated properties for inclusion in the Colorado State Register. Within thirty days of the recommendation, the Society Board of Directors determines whether the nominated properties are to be listed in the Colorado State Register. The property owners are notified of the determination.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the nation's historic and archaeological resources worthy of preservation. The register is a national inventory to which public agencies as well as private citizens may refer. It contains buildings, districts, historic and prehistoric sites, structures, and objects significant on a national, state, or local level.

The National Register is administered by the National Park Service under the Secretary of the Interior. In each state, a state preservation office, guided by a State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), conducts the program and related preservation activities. In Colorado, the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP), a part of the Colorado Historical Society, administers these programs.

The National Register is intended primarily for use as a planning tool to encourage preservation without restraint upon private property interests. Listing of a property does not impose any responsibilities upon the private property owner for maintenance or restoration. A private owner may alter or demolish a National Register site without consultation with OAHP or the National Park Service. However, the result of any such action that compromises the historic character of a site may cause the property to be removed from the register.

BENEFITS OF LISTING

The National Register formally recognizes properties possessing a documented level of significance and that contribute to the understanding and appreciation of the history or prehistory of a community, the state, or the nation.

By honoring such important sites, the National Register accomplishes the following:

- increases pride of ownership and expands community interest and appreciation of its cultural resources;
- stimulates local preservation planning;
- develops local interest and support of neighborhood and commercial revitalization;
- creates a body of information available for community promotion purposes by such local and state agencies as chambers of commerce and tourism departments;
- encourages the renovation of income-producing properties and revitalization of historic commercial districts and residential neighborhoods through tax incentives. These incentives include investment tax credits toward approved renovation costs of listed commercial, industrial, or rental residential buildings;
- qualifies a property to compete for grants from Colorado's State Historical Fund. These
 grants may be used for acquisition and development, education, and survey and planning
 projects;
- permits easement donations. Buildings, structures, and open spaces listed on the National Register qualify under the Federal Income Tax Regulations and the Colorado conservation easement statute as certified properties for the donation of a conservation easement. Such a donation enables the property owner to protect a property in perpetuity and allows for a charitable contribution deduction;
- provides limited protection to listed or eligible sites from adverse actions by federal agencies or agencies using federal funds. Such agencies must request the comments of the SHPO as well as the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation before beginning projects affecting historic properties. The purpose of this consultation is not to impede or halt development, but rather to assure that the value
- of historic properties is given direct consideration in federal project planning decisions;
- qualifies a property to receive federal assistance for historic preservation, when funds are available. Funds are presently unavailable.



RESTRICTIONS

There are no restrictions imposed by the National Register as to what private property owners may or may not do with their property. Listing in the register does not give anyone else the right to impose restrictions. National Register listing does not dictate use or zoning. Private property owners may alter or demolish a listed property subject only to applicable local government regulations.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

The criteria established for the evaluation of sites and documentation standards required for recordation have been set by the National Park Service and are uniform throughout the nation. All nominated sites must be over 50 years old with their original historic character well preserved and the integrity of setting and materials retained. Buildings or districts that are in a state of ruin do not qualify unless it can be demonstrated that the site has historic archaeological potential. Nominations must be based on one or more of the following areas of significance:

- A. association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. association with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of 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. has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces or graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years are not considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- A. a religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- B. a building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with an historic person or event; or
- C. a birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his/her productive life; or
- D. a cemetery that derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or
- E. a reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a reconstruction master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or
- F. a property primarily commemorative in intent of design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own historical significance; or
- G. a property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.

NOMINATION PROCESS

It is the responsibility of the OAHP initially to determine if sites appear to meet the National Register criteria. For an evaluation, basic information must be submitted on a state inventory form with a photograph(s) and a map locating the site. Anyone may request such an evaluation of a property. However, once a site is determined potentially eligible, nomination of a private property cannot proceed without owner consent. Nomination consists of the following procedure:

- 1. If it is determined by the OAHP that the property appears to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register, the OAHP recommends that the owner or interested party proceed with the full documentation and nomination of the site. The information must be recorded on a National Register nomination form and must conform to standards established by the National Park Service. The staff of the OAHP will provide guidance to all those preparing nominations.
- 2. The OAHP schedules the presentation of the nomination to the Colorado Historic Preservation Review Board which meets three or four times a year. The Review Board, appointed by the Governor and the SHPO, is an independent body composed of both lay members and professionals representing the disciplines of prehistoric and historic archaeology, history, and architecture.

Owners of properties being nominated individually are notified 30 days in advance in order to give the owner an adequate period for comment. Notification of owners within districts consisting of more than 50 properties is by public notice, printed in the largest circulation newspaper in the vicinity of the district, at least 30 days prior to the Review Board meeting. The owner of a property which is nominated individually must consent to nomination. With the nomination of districts, 51% of owners of properties within the boundaries must object by notarized letter to halt formal listing.

- 3. If the Review Board approves the nomination and the SHPO concurs with eligibility, the nomination is then forwarded to the Keeper of the National Register in Washington, D.C. who makes the final decision concerning listing. The National Register staff in Washington reviews and acts on the nomination within 45 working days of receipt of the form.
- 4. The SHPO is notified of the decision of the Keeper of the National Register and subsequently notifies the owner(s) of the approval of the nomination and listing of the property or returns the nomination for additional information.

