



**THE MONTANA HISTORY**  
FOUNDATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Glasgow City-County Library Welcomes Carnegie Libraries Traveling Exhibit**

The Glasgow City-County Library is pleased to welcome a traveling exhibit on Montana's Carnegie libraries from August 1-21. The exhibit is part of a year-long celebration of the libraries in connection with the release of the book *The Best Gift: Montana's Carnegie Libraries*.

Residents are invited to come learn more about the history of Montana's 17 Carnegie libraries, which were built across the state at the turn of the 20th century with the help of funding provided by Andrew Carnegie.

Expansion of the railroad in the late 1880s led to significant growth in Glasgow's population. Residents created the library in 1904 to give the town's many young, single men a place to spend their time. Several years later, members of the Glasgow Public Library and Reading Room Association wrote to Carnegie's secretary James Bertram requesting a gift for their own building. He responded favorably with an offer of \$7,500 and by July of 1909 the Glasgow Carnegie library was open. It served its patrons and those from surrounding counties for many years until being demolished in September of 1965, to make way for a larger and more accessible building.

In *The Best Gift: Montana's Carnegie Libraries*, author Kate Hampton brings each of the libraries' stories to life, showing how they impacted communities. Captivating photographs by Tom Ferris transport us to the libraries' doorsteps and within.

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New York Times bestselling author Jamie Ford of Great Falls provides the forward, sharing his memories on the role libraries have played in his life. The traveling exhibit highlights the importance of libraries, the financial contributions Carnegie made to help build them, their individual architectural styles and the significant role of Montana women.

The Montana Carnegie libraries traveling exhibit will be on display at the Glasgow City-County Library, 408 3rd Ave. South, from August 1-21. Visitors are asked to follow all library safety protocols when entering the building. Please practice social distancing by staying 6 feet away from others in public spaces. For more information, please contact library director Megan Haddix at (406) 228-2731.

The exhibit is made possible by the Montana History Foundation, with generous funding provided by Tom and Barbi Donnelley (The Donnelley Foundation) and BNSF.

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