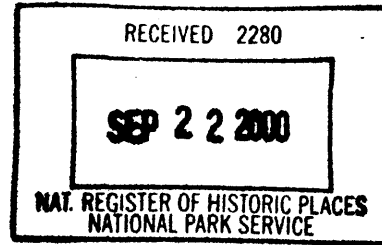


**United States Department of Interior  
National Park Service**



1256

**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Whitewater Post Office  
other names/site number N/A

**2. Location**

street & number	213 Center Street	N/A	not for publication
city or town	Whitewater	N/A	vicinity
state Wisconsin	code WI	county Walworth	code 127 zip code 53190

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  
( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

*Alvina Z. Or...*  
Signature of commenting official/Title

July 26, 2000  
Date

Deputy SHPO - WI

State or Federal agency and bureau

Whitewater Post Office  
Name of Property

Walworth County  
County and State

Wisconsin

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:  
 entered in the National Register.  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register.  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register.  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_ removed from the National Register.  
\_\_\_ other, (explain:)

*Edouard Beall*

10/24/08

*Edouard Beall*  
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

#### 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property**  
(check as many boxes as  
as apply)

\_\_\_ private  
\_\_\_ public-local  
\_\_\_ public-State  
 public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

building(s)  
\_\_\_ district  
\_\_\_ structure  
\_\_\_ site  
\_\_\_ object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources  
in the count)

contributing	noncontributing
1	0 buildings
	sites
	structures
	objects
1	0 total

**Name of related multiple property listing:**  
(Enter "N/A" if property not part of a multiple property  
listing.)

US Post Office Construction from 1913-1943,  
State of Wisconsin - Milwaukee District

**Number of contributing resources  
is previously listed in the National Register**

0

#### 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)  
Government/ Post Office

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)  
Government/ Post Office

#### 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)  
Colonial Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)  
Foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof

other Terra Cotta

#### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Whitewater Post Office  
Name of Property

Walworth County  
County and State

Wisconsin

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our 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 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 Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

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### Period of Significance

1936

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### Significant Dates

1936 (1)

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### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

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### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

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### Architect/Builder

Simon, Louis A. (2)

Melick, Neal A. (3)

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### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Whitewater Post Office  
Name of Property

Walworth County  
County and State

Wisconsin

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):**

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office  
Other State Agency  
Federal Agency  
Local government  
University  
Other

Name of repository:

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property Less Than One Acre**

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1/6	3/5/8/3/6/0	4/7/4/3/5/2/0	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
	<input type="checkbox"/> See Continuation Sheet						

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

**11. Form Prepared By**

<b>name/title</b>	Charles W. Causier, AICP & Robert J. Gosse, Architect I		
<b>organization</b>	HNTB	<b>date</b>	12-29-93
<b>street &amp; number</b>	11270 West Park Place	<b>telephone</b>	414-359-2300
<b>city or town</b>	Milwaukee	<b>state</b>	Wisconsin
		<b>zip code</b>	53224

Whitewater Post Office  
Name of Property

Walworth County  
County and State

Wisconsin

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

**Maps** A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs** Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional Items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

### Property Owner

Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

<b>name/title</b>	John S. Sorenson, Program Manager, Historic Preservation		
<b>organization</b>	US Postal Service, Customer Service Facility		
<b>street&amp;number</b>	475 L'Enfant Plaza	<b>telephone</b>	202-268-3107
<b>city or town</b>	Washington	<b>state</b>	DC
		<b>zip code</b>	20260-6235

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 1 Whitewater Post Office  
Walworth County, Wisconsin

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**Narrative Description**

The Whitewater Post Office is located in the business/commercial district of the city of Whitewater in Walworth County, Wisconsin. The one story, red brick building is an example of the Georgian Revival style influenced by the modernist trends of the 1930s. The 1936 building is L-shaped in plan with the public entrance and lobby on the Center Street façade.

The building sits on an elevated, concrete foundation and has a flat roof. The exterior walls are of red brick laid in American bond with inset terra cotta detailing. The main façade is organized symmetrically about the entry doors. The modern, double doors are contained within an arched surround of painted stone. The arch is somewhat unusual in that the voussoirs come to a slight point at the top of the arch, rather than the rounded arch with keystone expected. In the area between the arch and the doors is a semi-circular fanlight with a decorative iron grille. A slightly raised parapet at the center of the façade emphasizes the entry. A wide flight of stairs of exposed aggregate concrete rises from the sidewalk level to a landing before the doors.

To either side of the front doors are two windows. These are twelve over twelve, double hung windows. The windows are original; however, new storm windows have been added. A square, terra cotta panel is located above each window. A decorative, terra cotta band, defining the base of the parapet, begins over the center of the two inner windows. The band continues on the side elevations.

The side elevations have the same types of windows and decorative treatment as the front façade. An accessible entrance has been added to the first of the six bays of the east elevation. The two central bays of the west elevation contain small, four over four, double hung windows. The projecting rear elevation is the same height as the main block, but contains two stories. A loading dock is at its base.

The interior has had few alterations. It retains its original wood paneling and vestibule. The flooring is the original patterned tile. The walls and ceiling are of plaster.

Overall, the building retains a high level of architectural integrity with minimal alteration to the exterior or the interior public lobby.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 2 Whitewater Post Office  
Walworth County, Wisconsin

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**Statement of Significance**

The Whitewater Post Office is an intact example of a small, Federal post office evaluated in the context of the "United States Post Office Construction from 1913 to 1940, State of Wisconsin - Milwaukee District" Multiple Property Nomination.

This 1936 post office building is an example of a small, urban post office designed in a simplified Georgian Revival style. The original entry door has been replaced, but all other original design elements appear to be intact. The building is nominated under Criterion C for Architecture.

**Historic Context**

This building is the first federally owned post office building in Whitewater. Prior to its construction, postal services were at various locations. These were selected by a series of local postmasters. Postal service in Whitewater dates from 1840 and D.J. Powers was the first Postmaster.(4)

This post office was one of a series constructed in Wisconsin by the federal Public Works Administration in the 1930s. The history of post office construction under this program is explained in the above-referenced multiple property nomination. As a cost saving measure, post offices built under the relief program were from standard plans. As a result, the Whitewater Post Office and the Kaukauna Post Office (also in Wisconsin) are identical in appearance. The design of this building, as in most cases in the multiple property nomination, is credited to Louis A. Simon and Neal A. Melick of the Office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury.

**Significance**

The Whitewater Post Office is locally significant as an example of mid-1930s Georgian Revival design applied to a public building. Elements of this style include symmetry, multi-light windows, and an elaboration of the entrance. The use of red brick with white detailing often identifies institutional buildings of this style. In keeping with the economic constraints placed on publicly funded buildings during the Depression, the Whitewater Post Office contains minimal surface decoration. Rather than a carved cornice, a manufactured terra cotta stringcourse is substituted. Elaboration is confined to the entrance with its masonry arch and the ironwork grille of the fanlight. The interior is similar to many other post offices built during the period. The Whitewater example differs somewhat in its use of a tile floor.

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

**United States Department of the Interior  
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Continuation Sheet**

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Walworth County, Wisconsin

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The building retains its identifying architectural features. On the interior, the tile floor, wood wainscot and trim, and the vestibule are original. Overall, the building retains a high level of integrity, presenting an example of the Georgian Revival style applied to a small, federally funded post office project in the 1930s.



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section 9/10 Page 4 Whitewater Post Office  
Walworth County, Wisconsin

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1.

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

The following sources were consulted in addition to those included in the multiple property nomination for post offices in Wisconsin from 1913 to 1943:

Grovath, Prosper. Early Annals of Whitewater, 1837-1867. Whitewater: 1906.

Reconnaissance Files. State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Whitewater Post Office.

**10. Geographical Data**

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The parcel for the nominated property corresponds to the following legal description:  
Lot 19 block 4, part lots 18 and 20 commencing on south line Center Street 66.6 feet westerly of northeast corner lot 20, south 6 D 30 feet east 140.09 feet to north line alley, south 69 D 38 feet west 119.08 feet, north 6 D 30 feet west 170.62 feet to south line Center Street, easterly 155.5 feet to POB. Original town, City of Whitewater.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary encompasses the Whitewater Post Office, parking lot, and surrounding yard. This is the limit of the original property holding.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
Continuation Sheet

Section photos Page 5

Whitewater Post Office  
Walworth County, Wisconsin

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**Photos**

The following information is the same for all of the photographs:

Whitewater Post Office  
Whitewater, Walworth County, Wisconsin  
Photographed by Joseph Jurkiewicz, 1993  
Negatives at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin

1. Detail of entrance.
2. General view.
3. Interior of lobby.
4. Detail of vestibule, lobby.
5. Rear elevation, looking north.
6. Side elevation, looking west.
7. Detail of brickwork and terra cotta band.
8. Side elevation, looking east.
9. Front elevation, looking south.

**Endnotes**

1. Whitewater Post Office.
2. Whitewater Post Office.
3. Whitewater Post Office.
4. Prosper Grovath, Early Annals of Whitewater, 1837-1867 (Whitewater: 1906), 44.