

PH 36161X

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUL 22 1976
DATE ENTERED NOV 13 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

U. S. Post Office

AND/OR COMMON

Federal Building and Courthouse

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1129 Noble Street

CITY, TOWN

Anniston

STATE

Alabama

VICINITY OF
CODE

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third
COUNTY

Calhoun

CODE

015

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 AGENCY General Services Administration - Public Buildings Service

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

Region 4

STREET & NUMBER

1776 Peachtree Street

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta 30309

STATE

Georgia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Calhoun County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Northeast corner of Gurnee and 11th Streets

CITY, TOWN

Anniston

STATE

Alabama

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Federal Building and Courthouse was constructed 1904-1906 from plans by the office of James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect of the Treasury 1897-1912. The building, standing close to the street, is located on the southeast corner of 12th and Noble Streets. As originally constructed the building measured 90 feet 10 inches along Noble Street (the principal facade), and 48 feet 2 inches wide. It stands three storeys above grade on an unexcavated basement. In 1934 an extensive two storey rear addition was constructed over a full basement, and the building was remodelled. After the post office was removed from the building in 1962, an extensive remodelling took place in 1963-1964. The building is of wall bearing construction with concrete beams and solid floor slabs. The foundation consists of spread footings. The walls are of brick, faced with white marble.

The principal facade has a central three bay pavilion. The entire building is divided horizontally into three zones: a visual basement composed of the basement and deeply rusticated first storey, two storeys which appear on the principal facade as a piano nobile with a gallery, and the Ionic entablature and balustraded parapet. The piers of the parapet have projecting panels corresponding to the solids and voids below.

The building's podium is of marble ashlar. The first storey banded rustication begins above the sill course. On the principal facade letters reading "Federal Building United States Courthouse" are attached to the rustication between the northernmost first storey bays. The first storey flat-arched windows are recessed and composed of twin one over one double-hung sash units surmounted by a two-light transom. The windows are surmounted by a keystone with a raised center section and voussoirs integrated into the rustication. Surmounting the rustication is a molding that functions as the architrave in the simplified first storey entablature. The central entrance doorway is approached by a steep flight of steps. Stairwalls and plinths terminate the stairway between the outer bays. Originally heavy cast metal post lamps stood on the plinths. The recessed double doors are surmounted by a transom with grille work with a circular element incorporating the initials "U.S." The doorway is enframed by a Gibbs surround.

In the outermost bays of the principal facade, second storey windows of the same configuration as below are set above a shaped apron within a shouldered architrave. A belt course surmounting the cornice forms the plinth blocks of the window architrave, which is surmounted by a pulvinated

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frieze and a hooded cornice. Twin one over one double-hung sash windows set within a shaped architrave define the third storey in the outermost bays.

The second and third storey of the pavilions are terminated by pairs of unfluted Ionic pilasters. In the frieze, each pilaster is surmounted by a roundel. Identical individual pilasters define the center bays. Each of the arched windows in the center bays surmounts a sill supported by consoles flanking a raised panel. The windows are tripartite, narrow one over one double-hung units flanking a central unit. Originally the windows were composed of two over two sash units flanking a four over four unit and surmounted by a six light fan. Above each window is a carved stone garland of leaves and ribbons.

The original north and south facades were identical, each having three bays identical to the outermost bays of the principal facade. On the first storey of the south facade a small window is placed between the two westernmost windows; on the north facade the middle first storey window is blind. The four bays of the northern facade of the 1934 addition are identical to the first and second storey windows of the original northern facade. The westernmost first storey aperture is filled by double doors flanked by cast metal sconces and is approached by a double stairway. The addition is only two storeys high and is terminated by a simple cornice and parapet. On the south facade, the addition had a first storey loading area covered by a marquee and supported by six tie rods. It is now covered by marble sheathing and three double-hung sash windows. Only the paterae from the bracing rods remain, as well as the opening adjoining the original building to permit access up and downstairs. The second storey of the addition has five double-hung sash windows lower than those of the original second storey. These reflect an interior mezzanine. A condenser surmounts the addition on the southern facade.

The eastern facade of the original building is largely blocked by the addition. Only a few third storey windows of the east facade are visible. The addition is of two different heights on the east facade. The southern two bays are lower than the northern four, which are topped by a simplified version of the cornice of the north facade. The northern part of the addition is L shaped, leaving a light well for the original second storey east windows. The first storey is terminated on the north by the return

Anniston, Alabama

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of the rustication on the east facade, the first storey windows of the northern part of the addition are each composed of one over one double-hung sash units, flat arched and with transoms corresponding to the configuration of the unit below, the southern two being tripartite, the northern, twinned. The second storey windows of this part of the addition are flat arched with twin double-hung sash units surmounted by two light transoms. The second window from the east is blocked. Each bay of both storeys of the southern section of the addition contains a two over two double-hung window with a vertical glazing bar. The southernmost one in the first storey is one course lower than the other.

On the interior, the first storey, used as a Post Office until 1962, has been divided into offices and, with the exception of some cornices, the marble stair and cast iron railing, little of the original is visible. The second storey courtroom that extends through the third storey is a handsome, well proportioned room, but the ceiling has been dropped for modern lighting.

Loading dock covered at unknown date

*Leborich
10.27.76*

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1904-1906

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

James Knox Taylor

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The material, massing, and wealth of ornamentation of the Federal Building bespeak Taylor's effort to make a powerful architectural statement of the Federal government's presence in Anniston. They also mark the building as one of the most distinguished in Anniston, and as a unusual example of the classical idiom. In fact the building functions as the most solid, unified building on one of the principal streets of Anniston, serving as an important visual anchor. Thus, in addition to being the site of Federal activity for over sixty years, the building is a dominant architectural landmark in town.

Complete plans for an entirely different building in a Colonial style had been completed in 1902 and a contract let for its construction. The foundations were evidently begun when the building was redesigned. The form of the original entrance steps still appears on the plans as existing beneath the present steps. It was probably the result of the strong influence of the Alabama congressional delegation that the original design change was made, and a more monumental building constructed.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Anniston Evening Star July 28, 1902
 Anniston Evening Star September 27, 1902
 Anniston Evening Star October 20, 1902

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than One - m. mulloy (11-4-76)
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1 6	6 0 8	5 5 0	3 7 2	4 7 9 0	B					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
C						D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

General Services Administration

ORGANIZATION

Historic Preservation

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

19th & F Street, NW

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Washington, DC 20405

STATE

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

Paul B. Howard, Jr.
 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

7-15-76

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE *Michael S. Mulloy*

TITLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

DATE 7.20.76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST

James L. ...
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 11/3/96

ATTEST

Charles ...
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 11.10.76