

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	DEC 19 1985
DATE ENTERED	1/22/86

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Fort Morgan Post Office

AND/OR COMMON

Fort Morgan Main Post Office

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

300 State Street

NA NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fort Morgan

NA VICINITY OF

4

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Colorado

08

Morgan

087

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

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

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- NA IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

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

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

United States Postal Service, Western Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER

850 Cherry Ave.

CITY, TOWN

San Bruno

NA VICINITY OF

STATE

CA

94099

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Morgan County Assessor
Morgan County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 892

CITY, TOWN

Fort Morgan

STATE

CO

80701

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None Known.

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 1972	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE <u>NA</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fort Morgan Post Office is a square building (1917) of the classically derived Federal Style which is most commonly associated with southern and eastern colonial architecture. The symmetrical building is dominated by a monumental pediment supported by four columns at the front entrance.

LOCAL CONTEXT

Fort Morgan, located roughly 80 miles northwest of Denver on Interstate 76, is a shipping and commercial center for the surrounding agricultural areas. The post office is located within two blocks of the commercial center of town, and the adjacent land uses are residential. Several buildings in the downtown area date from the early years of this century; however, the post office is not within an officially designated historic district and no structures of known historic significance are located adjacent to the post office.

PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building appears to be in excellent structural condition, though its appearance has not been well maintained. Paint is peeling from the wooden balustrade at the roof line, and the columns at the front entrance have recently received a coat of paint applied over a layer of peeling paint. The landscaping has been adequately maintained. An addition was built on the north side of the workroom, when the structure was used as a Management Sectional Center. The addition has reinforced concrete walls, though they are covered with a face brick which resembles the color, but not the bond, of the original brick. The lobby and office areas have been extensively remodeled; the original service windows have been replaced with a plastic-laminate topped service counter, a hung ceiling has been installed, and the original lobby furniture has been replaced with plastic-laminate covered particle board furniture.

The building has a flat, asphalt composition roof over the lobby and office areas, and a tin-covered shed roof over portions of the workroom. The walls are light tan Flemish bonded brick, and the building has a reinforced concrete foundation. The steps leading to the front entrance are granite, and ornamental trim is both plaster and wood. The public lobby has a terrazzo floor.

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Continuation sheet

Fort Morgan PO

Item number 7

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The original structure was essentially square in plan, and oriented to the south. The lobby is a long rectangle on the southern half of the plan, and the workroom occupies the north and western portions of the building. The postmaster's and assistant postmaster's offices were located along the east wall, though the original configuration has since been changed.

The pedimented portico that shelters the front entrance is in the shape of a classical temple facade, though elements of several orders are combined. The capitals and bases of the columns and responds are derived from Roman Doric motifs, as are the dental molding and mutule blocks on the frieze and pediment. Proportionally, the long, thin columns, articulated with only a very slight entasis, recall Ionic archtypes; the frieze, lacking the alternative tryglyphs and metopes of the Doric order, is also Ionic. The coffered barrel vault directly over the front entrance is based on Roman models, though it has been filtered through a Beaux-Arts interpretation of Quattrocento architectural tradition; note especially the wooden keystone which breaks through the molding surrounding the vault. The leaded window which fills the transom is typical of Georgian, and later American Colonial, motifs, as are the tall double-hung windows which flank the front entrance. The original side elevations were symmetrical, and each contains an elaborate palladian window, with tall double hung windows flanking a large fixed window.

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Source: Sanborn Map, Fort Morgan Colorado, May 1939, page 2.

