

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

JAN 18 1985

DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse, Pendleton, Oregon

AND/OR COMMON

U.S. Post Office, Pendleton, Oregon

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

104 SW Dorian Avenue

NA NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Pendleton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

NA VICINITY OF

STATE

Oregon

CODE

41

COUNTY

Umatilla

CODE

059

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	NA IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
Thematic	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
X Group		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

U.S. Postal Service

STREET & NUMBER

850 Cherry Avenue

CITY, TOWN

San Bruno

NA VICINITY OF

STATE

California 94099

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Umatilla County Assessor's Office

STREET & NUMBER

SE 4th and Dorian

CITY, TOWN

Pendleton

STATE

Oregon 97801

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Federal Government Buildings in Oregon

DATE

July, 1968

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS Oregon State Office of Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Salem

STATE

Oregon 97310

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<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 Pendleton Post Office is a three-story brick structure of the Second Renaissance Revival style. The front facade is symmetrical and divided into seven bays. The facade is flat with articulation provided by slightly projecting the five-bayed center section. Horizontal rustication of the brick defines the first floor and flat pilasters on the second and third floors provide a vertical emphasis. The building is topped with a sandstone parapet with ballustered sections over the central salient. Single storied wings were added to the west side and rear of the building in 1962, but do not compromise the integrity of the original structure.

Physical Appearance

The building appears to be well maintained and in good condition. It is constructed of concrete footings and basement, brick walls supported by structural steel framing, and a flat built-up tar composition roof.

The front facade faces Dorian Avenue (to north) and is divided horizontally by dressed granite facing of the raised basement wall, sandstone water table, sandstone string courses at the sill level of the first floor windows, at the floor line of the second story, and above the third floor windows. Also, the red brick of the first floor (between the sill level string course and floor line of the second story) is horizontally rusticated.

Seven bays divide the facade vertically. The five-bayed central section projects slightly (approximately one foot) from the building. The first floor contains three double aluminum-framed glass doors, flanked by one window on each side. The original wood paneled doors were replaced in 1962. The doors are topped by a plain wooden transom bar and semi-circular 8-light windows. The flanking windows are 12-over-12 light double hung wood sash. An arched transom window, identical to those over the door, tops the double hung sash, and a single wooden panel is set beneath the wooden sill.

Over each of the five central arches is a centre-pointed radiating voussiered brick arch which extends to the second floor string course. The end window bays are also topped by a centre-pointed radiating arch over a flat window arch. These windows consist of 8-over-8 light double hung wooden sash (with thickened center muntin) topped with a 4-light transom window. The bottoms of these windows rest atop a sandstone string course.

The entry approach consists of six concrete stairs to a concrete landing which provides access to the three entry doors. Rectangular granite buttresses flank the stairs. Four aluminum balustrades run up the stairs. Four original wrought iron and glass lamps are attached to the wall between the five central bays. (The original granite steps and wrought iron balustrades were replaced in 1962.)

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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES See Below BUILDER/ARCHITECT Oscar Wenderoth, Supervising Architect, Dept. of Treasury

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Site acquired in 1910; building completed in 1916.

The Pendleton Post Office is a well preserved example of early 20th Century federal construction. The building, of Second Renaissance Revival design style, exhibits extraordinary scale and dignity in Pendleton's downtown core. While the 1962 additions do not fully convey the detailing and scale of the original structure, they were designed in some harmony, and do not compromise the building's original integrity.

Architecture

The post office represents the first federally constructed building in Pendleton and was constructed in a major period of the city's growth. Pendleton was one of nine Oregon cities to receive a federal building in the period between 1910 and 1920, and is one of two post offices from this era remaining under U.S. Postal Service administration and use (the other being The Dalles, which is included in this nomination). Although constructed from standardized plans out of the Office of the Supervising Architect, Oscar Wendroth, the building exhibits monumental character and is a well preserved example of the Renaissance Revival style. The Pendleton post office and courthouse is almost a duplicate of the Medford Post Office and Courthouse (under GSA administration), which was entered on the National Register on April 30, 1979.

Local Context

Pendleton, the county seat of Umatilla County, had a 1982 population of approximately 14,560. Manufacturing, agriculture, and forest products form the foundation of the local economy and Pendleton has also hosted the world reknowned "Pendleton Round-up" rodeo since 1910.

The Pendleton area was settled in 1862 by Abram Miller and his family with the filing of a 160-acre homestead claim. The original townsite plat was filed on December 18, 1868, and the first post office was established around 1869-1870 with Frank Coates as the first postmaster. Incorporation took place on October 25, 1880 and Pendleton was also named the county seat, having spirited it away from Umatilla City. In 1880 the city had a population of 830. The next two decades were ones of expansion and rapid growth, fueled by agriculture and wool production. The population grew to 2,506 in 1890 and 4,406 at the turn of the century. The decade ending in 1910 was one of stagnation, with the 1910 population reaching only 4,460. The next decade, however, was one of growth and development and by 1920 Pendleton had a population of 6,857.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- 1) Blueprints and construction documents
- 2) Umatilla County Historical Society, "Umatilla County: A Backward Glance", Pendleton, EO Master Printers, 1981.
- 3) Pendleton Tribune, various articles from 1908 to 1916.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.72 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	1
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3	6	0	8	1	0
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5	0	5	8	8	5	0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the southwest corner of the intersection of Alta and Garden Streets in the Town of Pendleton, thence south along the west side of Garden Street 130 feet, thence at right angles westerly 150 feet, thence right angles northerly 130 feet to the south line of Alta Street, thence easterly along the south line of Alta Street 150 feet to the point of beginning; the above description including all of Lots K, L, and M in the fractional block lying south of Alta Street and between Garden and Willow streets in the Town of Pendleton.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
NA	NA	NA	NA
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
NA	NA	NA	NA

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

H.J. Kolva, Senior Associate

ORGANIZATION Haworth and Anderson, Inc.

Institute for Urban and Local Studies

STREET & NUMBER

West 705 First Avenue

CITY OR TOWN

Spokane

DATE

August 31, 1984

TELEPHONE

(509) 458-6219

STATE

Washington 99204

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES ___ NO ___ NONE ___

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

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

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

See Continuation Sheet for listing

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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CONTINUATION SHEET Pendleton ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

The plinth course, upon which rests two sets of double and four single brick pilasters, rests on the third string course. The pilasters separate the bays of the second and third floors. The seven French windows of the second story are rectangular with 10 lights in each half, 4-light transoms overhead, and wrought iron protective grilles across the bottom third. The five center windows have brick surrounds with semi-circular blind arches. The arches contain sandstone bas relief panels with a garlanded floral motif. The two windows in the end bays are similar with flat radiating brick arches.

The third story windows are 8-over-8 double hung with flat radiating arches over. The five center arches have terra cotta keystones. The terra cotta pilaster capitals are reminiscent of the Roman Doric order. The pilasters give the illusion of supporting the entablature. "U.S. Post Office and Court House" in incised letters is centered over the entry along the frieze. Above the frieze is a denticulated cornice and a sandstone parapet which shields the flat composition roof. The parapet is broken by balustrades.

In 1962 a basement and first story addition was constructed. From the exterior view, this construction provided a first floor addition to the west and south sides of the building. Although a diligent attempt was made to match both the brickwork and sandstone, the detailing of the original facade is not carried through in the additions. The rustic red brick and mortar work matches quite well, although again the banded rustication which is found presently on the front and east facades of the building was not matched. The front facade of the addition contains an additional three bays with three fixed 20-light windows. The facade on the west side contains a mixture of the 1962 addition with four windows at the first story, then four more bays with windows at the second and third stories on the original building. The windows of the second and third stories are the same as found on the end bays of the front facade.

The facade on the east side has been affected in the same fashion as the front facade. The original four bays with attendant windows as described for the west facade, are intact for all three stories. The far northeast first story bay is a side opening door, the original wood door replaced by aluminum in 1962. Also, new concrete steps and a steel handrailing were constructed as replacements in 1962. A handicapped ramp access is available as part of this entry system.

The facade on the south (the rear of the building) has again been substantially altered by the 1962 addition at the first story level. The first story includes a modern loading platform and ramps and is solid brick except for the loading dock area and openings. The second story, which is the original building, has five major bays with two end rectangular windows and three large central arching full glass multi-paned windows which open on the courtroom on the interior. Two small round windows with four sandstone terra cotta keystones placed around the window provide for a distinctive

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look on this rear facade. Located on the southeast corner of the building is a protruding brick chimney that extends the full height of the building. Adjacent to the chimney is a metal fire escape opening from the third floor to the roof of the first floor addition. It is nearly hidden by the chimney.

The interior was also altered in the 1962 renovation. The major changes were confined to the work room, although the service lobby also experienced some changes. The original materials in the lobby which include terrazzo floors and marble wainscoting, have been retained. The second and third floors have remained intact, with the exception of alterations to the ceilings to accommodate an air conditioning system and to modernize the light fixtures.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Pendleton ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Local News Coverage of the Pendleton Post Office Construction

Funding for a federal building for Pendleton was appropriated in the act of May 30, 1908 (35 Stat. 531 pl. 1) in the amount of \$70,000 for the site and building. On December 9, 1908, an article in the Pendleton Tribune reported that the lease on the present post office location was in the process of being renewed for five more years. The article queried "What about the Federal Building?" and related that the lease renewal "... was in the nature of a shock to those patriotic citizens who had become enthused over the prospects of a government building here."

The year 1909 began on a positive note as far as local federal building boosters were concerned when on January 1st site selection was announced. The property owned by Mrs. Leona Thompson and Mrs. A.M. Raley was selected at a bid price of \$6,000. A May 23rd article which told of the six substantial new buildings slated for or under construction mentioned that post office construction had been appropriated. Other buildings included a depot for the O.R. & N. Railroad, a new Pendleton Woolen Mills structure, new Christian Church, St. Mary's Catholic Church, and two additional stories to the three-story Hotel Pendleton.

Little activity took place until a July 26, 1913 article reported that there was hope for a larger appropriation. Judge S.A. Lowell received a letter from Nicholas J. Sinnott that in the upcoming session of Congress a bill requesting additional appropriation would be pressed. An additional \$60,000 would be requested. An article of December 29th reported that the outlook for the city's long-awaited federal building was better.

On February 25, 1914, Representative Sinnott was assured by the Public Buildings Committee that the \$60,000 appropriation would be forthcoming. On March 4th it was reported that through Sinnott's efforts an additional \$60,000 had been added to the omnibus bill. A July 3rd article reported that a message from U.S. Senator George E. Chamberlain stated that he was attempting to rush the bill for the federal building through Congress. Finally, on July 10th, the Tribune reported that the bill for the Pendleton federal building had passed the Senate. The city received a Christmas present from Uncle Sam when, on December 25th, Sinnott informed that the plans for the new building were ready.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Pendleton

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 3

Construction of the new building began in 1915. The two structures originally occupying the site had been removed. An article on June 2nd reported that the sod had been turned as Postmaster T.J. Tweedy guided a plow around the lot. Excavation contractor I. Wilkes then started working his teams to move the earth. On August 4th it was reported that J.S. Winters of Portland, the primary contractor for the project, was in Pendleton and stated that "post office construction would be rapid." The structural steel was in transit from Chicago and the other materials would arrive within a week. Articles of September 21st and September 23rd reported the laying of the cornerstone. "Hundreds gather to witness Masonic ceremonies at new federal building--many historic relics placed under stone". Congressman N.J. Sinnott, who was credited with the procurement of the building, attended the ceremony along with many local dignitaries.

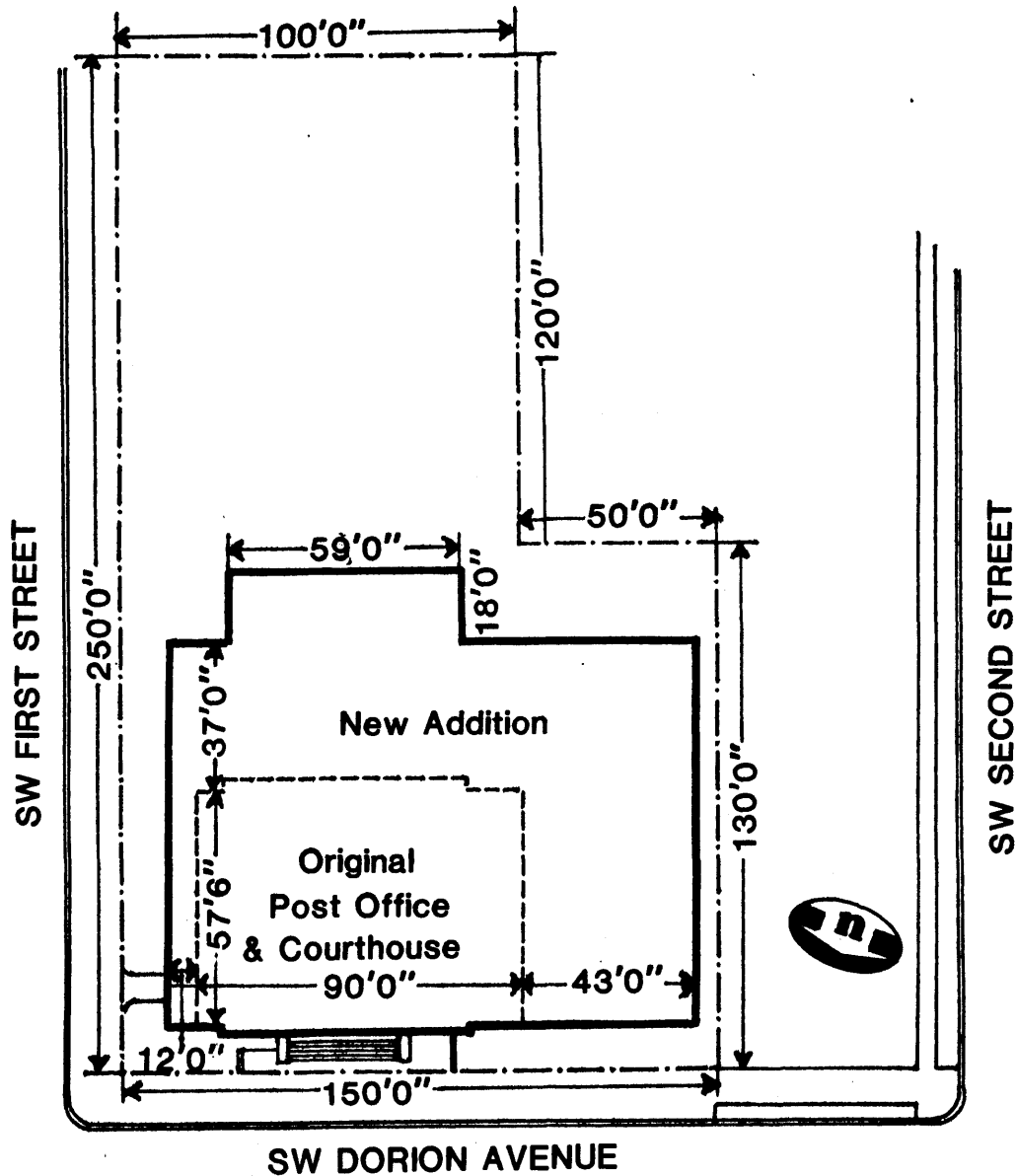
The new building was nearing completion as reported in a Tribune article of June 23, 1916. The long-awaited opening of the new post office was reported on September 4th "two months ahead of contract". An article in the same issue recounted the history of the Pendleton post office.

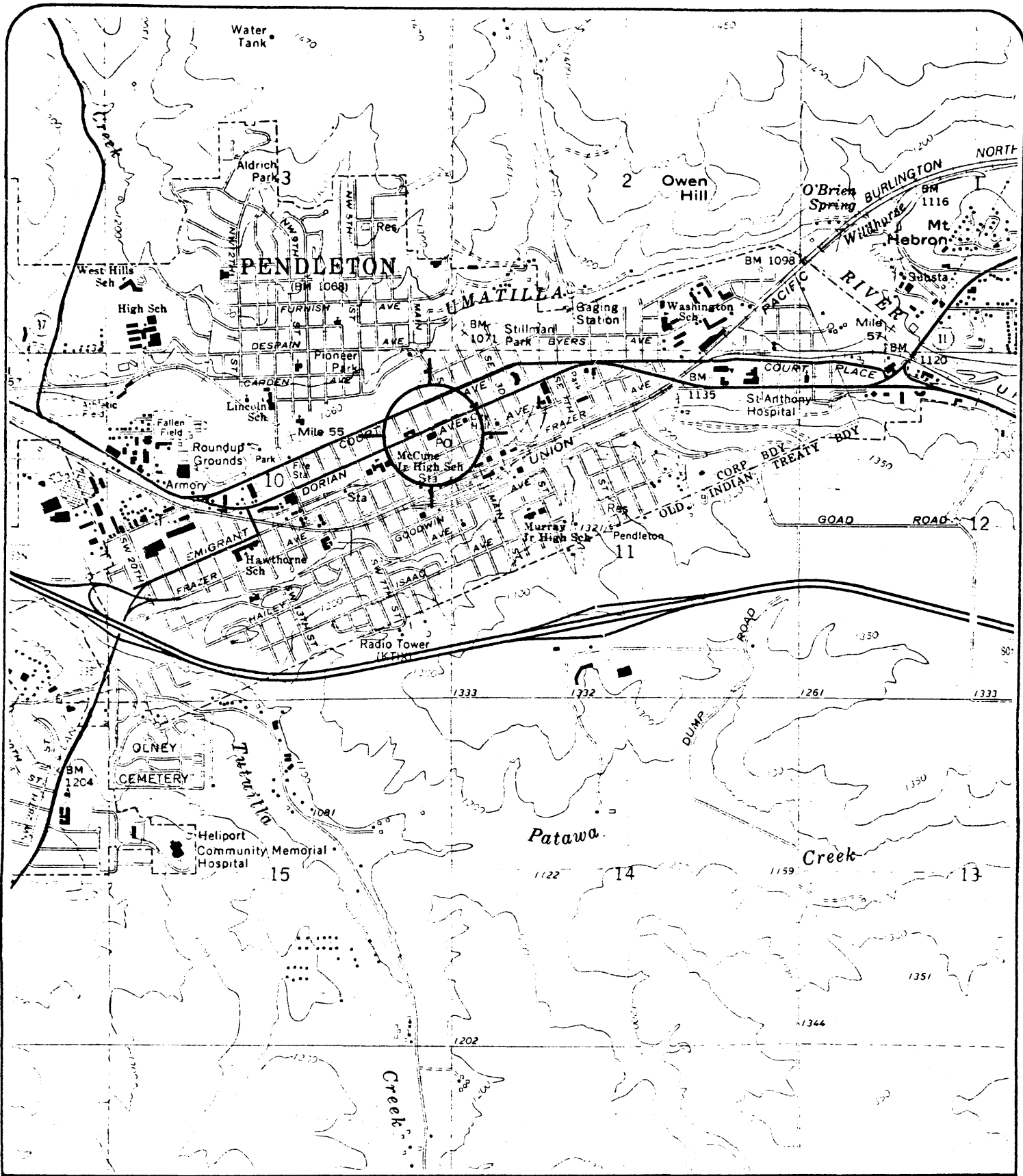
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CONTINUATION SHEET Pendleton ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 5





U.S. POST OFFICE
 Pendleton, Oregon
 UTM Reference:
 11/360810/5058850

