



**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)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals/

Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Other: Composition Shingles

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The U. S. Post Office is a one-story brick, Neo-Classical building constructed in 1931 in a rectangular plan with a three-bay rear wing. In recent years the building has been enlarged with several rear additions. The building occupies an urban lot on North Main Street in Madisonville and has small grass plots adjacent to the sidewalk on the main facade. To the east and north are parking areas for patrons and employees.

On the main (east) facade the entrance displays ca. 1970 metal and glass double doors with an original surround of engaged Ionic columns and a swan's neck pediment. Inscribed in the frieze over the door is "U. S. Post Office." Windows were originally twelve-over-twelve frame sash but these have been replaced with ca. 1970 triple-hung sash windows with horizontal panes.

The building rests on a raised basement which is faced with concrete. The basement contains window wells and enclosing the wells are iron railings. At the corners are brick quoins and above the windows is a concrete belt course. Above this belt course are rectangular panels of brick and concrete. The building has a hipped roof of composition shingles and at the cornice are decorative brackets and dentils of concrete. At the roofline of the central bay is a stylized eagle design of concrete. On the south and east facades are one-story ca. 1970 brick additions designed to match the original building. On the north facade are three original multi-light casement windows in the original wing.

The interior retains original marble wainscoting [redacted] and lobby floor tile. There are no outbuildings.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G    NA

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
Architecture/Government

Period of Significance  
1931

Significant Dates  
1931

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A

Significant Person  
N/A

Architect/Builder  
Architect: James A. Wetmore

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The U. S. Post Office is a significant example of an early 20th century postal facility and is representative of federal programs of the period. Completed in 1931, the construction of the post office provided jobs to many local laborers and temporarily assisted the local economy. The building was the only major project exclusively funded by the federal government in the county and continues to serve as the town's major postal facility. The building is representative of Colonial Revival designs employed by government architects of the period.

The construction of the post office was authorized under the Public Buildings Act of 1926 which was amended in May of 1930 to increase the number of postal building projects. Madisonville was chosen to receive a new post office based on its postal volume and inadequate facilities and it was one of 41 postal facilities constructed by the U. S. government in 1931. This building program stressed speedy and efficient construction to relieve unemployment and stimulate the economy. The construction of the Madisonville facility had these desired effects although only for a short period.

Standard plans were employed with James Wetmore or Louis Simon, supervising government architects. The design for the Madisonville facility was a Colonial Revival influenced structure with the main facade featuring engaged Ionic columns, a broken pediment, eave dentils and other classical features. Since its construction, alterations have been confined to the windows and additions on the rear facade.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS): NA

- 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

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less Than One Acre

UTM References

A 

1	6
---	---

4	5	5	8	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	1	3	1	3	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
 Zone Easting Northing

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

  
 Zone Easting Northing

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Madisonville East Quad

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Philip Thomason  
 organization Thomason and Associates date July 28, 1988  
 street & number P. O. Box 121225 telephone 615/383-0227  
 city or town Nashville state TN zip code 37212

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

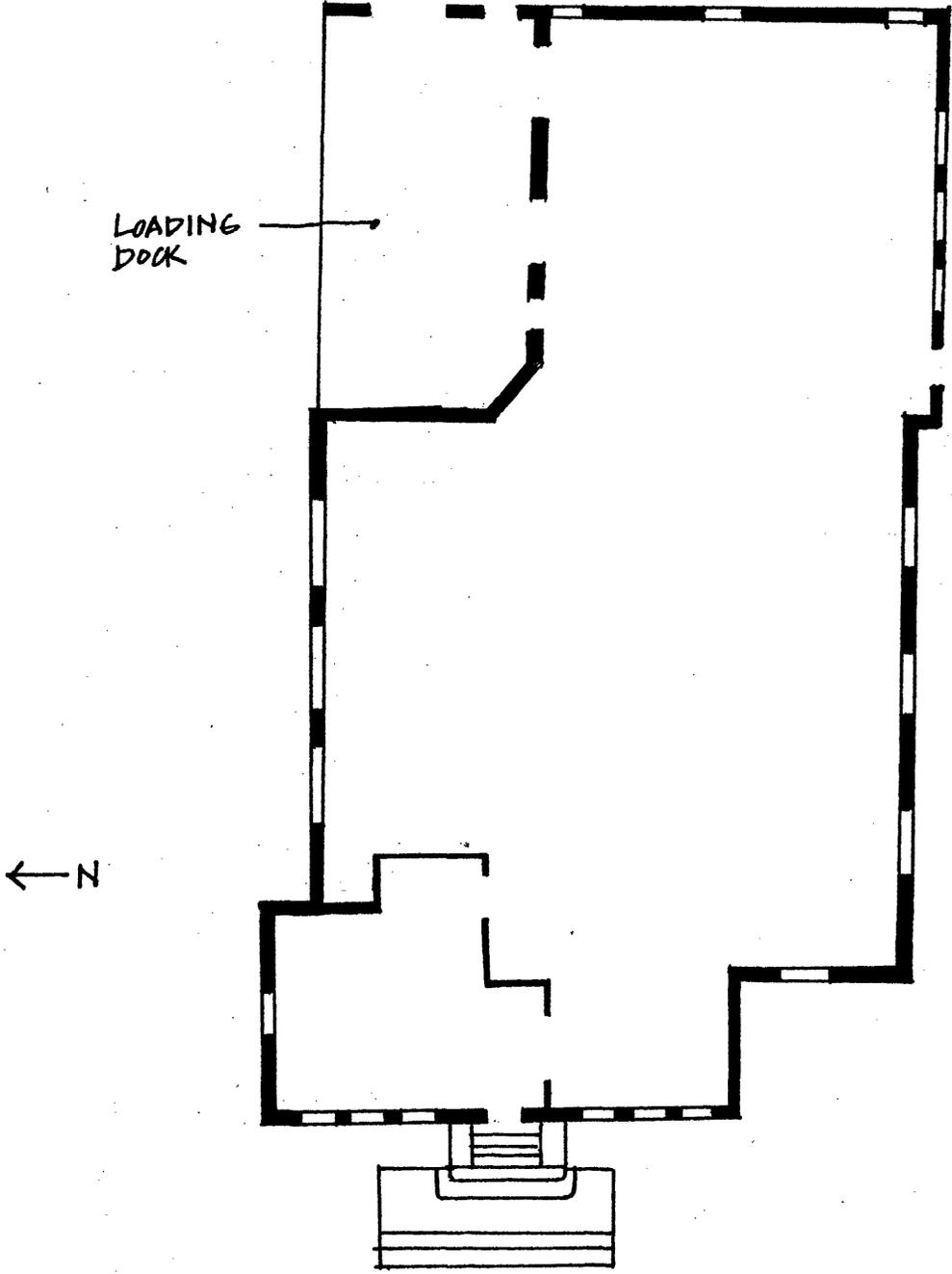
Hopkins County Multiple Properties Listing

---

Verbal Boundary Description: The boundary for the U.S. Post Office is block 14, lot 12 on accompanying Hopkins County tax map 32 which is drawn at a scale of 1" = 200' and on the accompanying sketch map.

Verbal Boundary Justification: The boundary for the U.S. Post Office includes the entire city lot that has been historically associated with the property.

HK 214 - U.S. POST OFFICE



NOT TO SCALE

Senior Citizens Center

Main

Main

Arch

North

U.S. Post Office(HK-214)  
56 N. Main St.,Madisonville  
1"=200'



Courthouse  
& Jail  
see M-33

East  
see M-33

Center

(Hwy 70)

Street

S. Main - US 41A

US 41A

Union

Franklin



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

**NRIS Reference Number:** 88003196

**Date Listed:** 1/31/89

U.S. Post Office -- Madisonville  
**Property Name**

Hopkins  
**County**

KY  
**State**

Hopkins County MRA  
**Multiple Name**

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrews  
**Signature of the Keeper**

1/31/89  
**Date of Action**

=====  
**Amended Items in Nomination:**

This building is nominated for its historical and architectural importance, yet only Criterion A has been selected on the form. In consultation with John Sorenson of the Federal Preservation Office, the form is now officially amended to include Criterion C to reflect the building's architectural importance.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photo Key Page 1

Hopkins County Multiple Properties Listing

---

**Photo Key**

1. U.S. Post Office (HK-214)  
Location: 56 North Main St., Madisonville  
Photos: Thomason and Associates  
Neg: KY Heritage Council  
Date: February 1988  
View: South, of Main (west) facade.  
Photo #: 1 of 3
  
2. U.S. Post Office (HK-214)  
View: Southeast, of north facade.  
Photo #: 2 of 3
  
3. U.S. Post Office (HK-214)  
View: Northeast of south facade.  
Photo #: 3 of 3.