

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 | MAR 7 1985 |
| DATE ENTERED | APR 18 1985 |

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
WATER VALLEY POST OFFICE
AND/OR COMMON
Post Office

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
2322 Main Street
CITY, TOWN
Water Valley
STATE
Mississippi 38965

N/A NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
1st

N/A VICINITY OF

CODE
28

COUNTY
Yalobusha

CODE
161

2 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"/> MUSEUM |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL | <input type="checkbox"/> PARK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | NA PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: |

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: *(If applicable)*
Memphis Field Real Estate & Buildings Office, U. S. Postal Service
STREET & NUMBER
1 North Front Street, P. O. Drawer 3744
CITY, TOWN
Memphis
STATE
Tennessee 38173-0744

N/A VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Yalobusha County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Water Valley
STATE
Mississippi 38965

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Statewide Survey of Historic Sites
DATE
1978
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
CITY, TOWN
Jackson
STATE
Mississippi 35205

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Water Valley, Mississippi Post Office is a white stucco building located at 2322 Main Street. It has one and one-half floors and a partial basement, and was occupied in 1925. This is a concrete and masonry structure with steel and wood framing. The flat composition roof has a parapet running the full course of the roof.

The mailing platform and ramp were added to the rear of the building in 1969. The building interior was remodeled in 1961 and very little of the original interior appearance was retained.

The street facade of first floor is divided into three bays reading window-door-window. The double hung windows, 12/12 lights, on the first floor of the front facade have recessed arches and the central bay is outsized Palladin composition. Two lanterns attached to the main facade flank this central doorway. The main floor is made accessible by a flight of granite steps with cast iron railing.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

The Water Valley, Yalobusha County, Mississippi Post Office is located on a rectangular parcel of land; the said point of beginning being the northeast corner of a certain strip of land 10 feet in width deeded to the City of Water Valley by W. C. Bryant (north side of Church Street) and go in a northerly direction along the western boundary line of Main Street 135 feet; then west along a line parallel with the northern boundary of Church Street 140 feet; then in a southerly direction along a line parallel with Main Street 135 feet to a point on the north boundary line of the aforesaid 10 feet strip of land deeded to the City of Water Valley by W. C. Bryant, and go in an easterly direction along a line parallel with the north boundary of said Church Street, said line being the north boundary line of the 10 feet strip of land deeded by W. C. Bryant to the City of Water Valley, and line being at all points 10 feet north of the north boundary line of Church Street, to the point of beginning.

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 1925/1961/1969 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Virginia Engineering Company/
James A. Wetmore

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Water Valley, Mississippi Post Office is of the Neo-classical Revival architecture and successfully re-interprets the innovative "revolutionary architecture" of the late eighteenth century which paralleled international political upheavals of that era. The facade is noteworthy for the allusions to stepped massing in the progressively diminished horizontal divisions, and for contrast between flat lintels and recessed arches in the fenestration. The compositional tension produced by the distortion of the outsized Palladin motif in the central bay is particularly compelling. The structural integrity of the building is not affected by the 1969 addition.

This building is significant on a local level as it represents the only building of this style in the town. It is of particular significance due to the fact that most of the original and/or older buildings in the vicinity have been destroyed.

The original building, which was occupied in 1925, was constructed under the supervision of the Treasury Department when A. W. Mellon was Secretary of Treasury. James A. Westmore was Acting Supervising Architect. Virginia Engineering Company, Newport News, Virginia, was the General Contractor with John Young of that firm being the Construction Engineer. This was the first building for Virginia Engineering and it is now a multi-million dollar firm.

The building interior was remodeled in 1961 under the supervision of the General Services Administration. Carothers and Carothers, a local firm, was the construction contractor.

The 1969 addition of a mailing platform and ramp was designed by Maloney Associates with Challendar Construction Company as the construction contractor.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Water Valley Post Office Files
Blue Prints and Specifications for Building

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .43

UTM REFERENCES

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|---------------------|----------------------|---|------|---------|----------|
| A | <u>1,6</u> | <u>2,5,7,10,4,0</u> | <u>3,7,8,2,0,2,5</u> | B | | | |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING | | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |
| C | | | | D | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property nominated is indicated by the crossed lines on the accompanying U.S.G.S. map entitled Water Valley, Mississippi. Scale 1:62500

See continuation sheet for Verbal Boundary Description.

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| N/A | | | |
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
| N/A | | | |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ila Ree Odom, Real Estate Specialist

ORGANIZATION

U. S. Postal Service

DATE

December 5, 1984

STREET & NUMBER

1 North Front Street, P. O. Drawer 3744

TELEPHONE

901/521-3131

CITY OR TOWN

Memphis

STATE

Tennessee 38173-0744

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

Deputy

Kenneth H. P. Pool
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

Director, Office of Real Estate

DATE

2/26/85

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Beth Grosvenor

DATE

4/18/85

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER