

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 APR 3 1985  
 MAY 8 1985  
 DATE ENTERED

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

HISTORIC

United States Post Office

AND/OR COMMON

Main Post Office

**LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

603 Main Street

\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Racine

\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Wisconsin

CODE

55

COUNTY

Racine

CODE

101

**CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**

\_\_DISTRICT

 BUILDING(S)

\_\_STRUCTURE

\_\_SITE

\_\_OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP** PUBLIC

\_\_PRIVATE

\_\_BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

N/A 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:

**AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

United States Postal Service,

STREET &amp; NUMBER

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, SW

CITY, TOWN

Washington

\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

D.C. 20260

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Racine County Registry of Deeds - Racine County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

730 Wisconsin Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Racine

STATE

Wisconsin 53403

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1975

\_\_FEDERAL  STATE \_\_COUNTY \_\_LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State Street

CITY, TOWN

Madison

STATE

Wisconsin 53706

## 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    DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The United States Post Office, 603 S. Main Street, is a rectangular, two-story building, approximately 89' wide x 160' long x 50' tall (on Main Street side), with an inner structure of reinforced concrete on steel columns and girders. Indiana Bedford Limestone faces the major facades, while granite was used for the west stairs. It should be noted that the land slopes toward the east and away from Main Street to the extent that the basement walls are completely exposed at the eastern end of the building.

The main facade faces west onto S. Main Street. A two-story, six-columned Corinthian-style portico dominates this facade. Each Corinthian column is 33 inches in diameter and approximately 22 feet tall. Between the six columns is an arcade of alternate blind and open arches on the first floor, with a set of double windows located on the second floor above each arch. The inscription, "United States Post Office," can be seen in the frieze area of the portico. A denticulated cornice above the frieze is topped by a parapet, in the center of which is carved an eagle. There are open balustrades at either end of this parapet.

The north facade faces onto Sixth Street. It is composed of twelve bays of doubled windows, each bay separated by a Corinthian pilaster. These pilasters are paired at each end of the facade. The denticulated cornice with parapet above is continued, with open balustrades above each set of windows.

The east facade faces onto Lake Avenue. Except for the denticulated cornice and parapet, there is no ornamentation. The basement is fully exposed here and is the site of the loading dock. There are seven sets of double windows on both the first and second floors.

The south facade is not obscured by a high-rise elderly housing project and a parking structure. The west third of the south facade is faced with Bedford limestone, while the remainder is faced with common red brick.

Much of the interior, especially the first floor and basement is occupied by large open areas for the processing and handling of the mail. The large workroom on the first floor has a large skylight.



