

4/10/85-

Historic Resources of Old Hickory
Old Hickory Post Office

Name: Old Hickory Post Office

Location: 1010 Donelson Avenue
Old Hickory, TN

Owner: U.S. Postal Service
Memphis Real Estate Office
P.O. Drawer 3744
Memphis, TN 38173-0744

Classification: Building

Description: The Old Hickory Post Office is a Colonial Revival structure constructed in 1934. It is a one-story brick building, rectangular in shape and faces Donelson Avenue in Old Hickory, Tennessee. Constructed of five-course common bond brick, the building displays soldier bond belt coursing above and below the main floor level. The building rests on a raised basement with the basement windows opening onto recessed light wells on the west and east facades. On the main story of the building are eight-over-eight wood sash windows. These windows feature concrete sills and jack arched window heads with keystones. Dividing the main floors and flanking windows are limestone pilasters with Doric capitals. Above the capitals is a frieze with the inscription "United States Post Office." Located above the frieze is an extended stone cornice with large modillion blocks. The interior of the building has not been greatly altered and displays its original enclosed frame vestibule with classical decoration such as dentils and wainscoting. The original brass post office boxes are also intact.

Significance: The Old Hickory Post Office is the second post office constructed to serve the residents of Old Hickory. The original post office was a one-story frame building built in 1918 which was located diagonally across from the present post office on Donelson Avenue. This building supplied postal service to the area until the early 1930s when it was determined a new building would be necessary to handle the growing volume of mail. The building was constructed in 1934 by the Public Works Administration with architect Louis Simon supervising the design. Upon its completion the building displayed a Colonial Revival design as shown in the window jack arching, Doric pilasters and modillioned cornice. The interior was also given fine detailing as seen in the vestibule, wainscoting and moldings. This Colonial design was very popular during the 1930s as the government sought to update many of its postal facilities throughout the country. Since its construction in 1934 the building has not been significantly altered and it still serves as the main postal facility for the Old Hickory area.

Acreage: Approx. .5 acre.

Verbal Boundary Description: The boundary for the Post Office is shown as lot 14 of Davidson County tax map 44-15. The building is bounded on the north by Donelson Avenue, on the east by Elliston Street and on the south and west by adjacent lots. The boundary includes all property which is historically associated with the Post Office.

UTM References: 16/531400/4013045. (Goodlettsville Quad)