

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 **MAY 3 1 1983**  
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/OR COMMON

Old Main Post Office

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

155 Broad Street N. W.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Cleveland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF Chattanooga

3

STATE

Tennessee

CODE

47

COUNTY

Bradley

CODE

011

**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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>NA PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

Memphis Field Real Estate and Buildings Office, U. S. Postal Service

STREET & NUMBER

1 North Front Street, P. O. Drawer 3744

CITY, TOWN

Memphis

NA VICINITY OF

STATE

Tennessee 38173-0744

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Bradley County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Ocoee Street

CITY, TOWN

Cleveland

STATE

Tennessee 37311

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Survey of Cleveland, Tennessee

DATE

1980

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Middle Tennessee State University

CITY, TOWN

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

STATE

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

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

The Main Post Office in Cleveland, Tennessee is one of the town's few examples of secular buildings representing the revival styles popular during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Elements of the Second Renaissance Revival and Georgian Revival styles include the symmetrical rectangular plan, large scale, quoins, massive cornice, and hipped roof with a flat deck.

Originally designed in 1910 by James K. Taylor, Supervising Architect, the Cleveland Tennessee Post Office combines elements of Georgian Revival and Neo-Classical Revival. The exterior is a buff grey brick. The doorways are topped with an overhanging galvanized metal cornice offset by dentils. Additionally, it contains a rectangular parapet roof and paired rectangular windows with double hung sash. Flat arches with keystones are located above each window. The original steel lamp posts grace the front entrance.

The interior contains marble/terrazzo/wood floors, wainscoting in the lobby, wood and iron balustrades on the stairs, and the plaster walls. Two of the original round wood structural columns are still intact and the stair railing up to the upper level is original. An exterior case concrete retaining wall running the full length of the south property line is original and still intact.

A major renovation occurred in 1933. The workroom was enlarged and the loading dock expanded. This remodeling was performed by D. T. Underwood, Contractor, and L. Read, Construction Engineer.

More remodeling and addition occurred in 1961. A new basement was added, the first floor was renovated, platform and marquee were redone, more maneuvering area was added, screenline/box lobby was altered, new air and heat systems provided, modern toilet facilities installed and other miscellaneous repairs. This renovation was accomplished by Architects, Harrison, Gill and Associates and Engineers, Monefeldt and Hine from Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The Post Office property was a natural habitat for wild game. It was thickly populated with trees, vines and wild flowers. About one-fourth mile down a slight incline gushed a clear and bubbling spring. Indians hunted and fished in this paradise to their hearts content. The soil was fertile and the environment perfect for agriculture. After this property was selected as a county seat, the use of the property was altered to accommodate commercial and office buildings. However, the spring remains and the water is still clear and fresh as ever.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" 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	1835 - 1911	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	James K. Taylor Supervising Architect
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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Because of the important events and people associated with the post office site and the architectural character of the building, it is my opinion that the Post Office property is historically significant. Situated directly behind the Courthouse, dominating the corner of Broad and First Streets, the Post Office Building is one of the few secular buildings in Cleveland to retain the flavor and physical attributes of its era.

In 1835, between Knoxville and Chattanooga was a trading place called "Taylor's Place" operated by Andrew Taylor and his Indian wife. Andy Taylor was the first white settler to arrive in what is now called Cleveland, Tennessee. Andy Taylor built a large commodious log cabin on the site now occupied by the Post Office and was living there when the removal treaty or New Echota was made with the Cherokee Indians. The Trail of Tears depicted several times on television started here in Cleveland, Tennessee.

A large spring at Taylor's Place furnished clear and abundant water for travelers and their animals. The site was selected later as the county seat of Bradley County. The spring is located one block west directly behind the Post Office in the basement of the law firm of Whitson and Webb. The Town of Cleveland was originated from the colony that sprang up at Taylor's Place. The Post Office Department bought "Taylor's Place" in 1907 from Judge Arthur Trayner for \$4,500 who formerly lived on the site. Judge Trayner inherited the property from his father.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of Bradley County, James Corn  
Farewell the Hills, James Corn

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .63

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	6,9,3	6,2,0	3,8	9,2	7,0,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C							D			

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Situated at the southwest corner of the intersection of Broad Street and 31st Street and running thence South 29 degrees west along the westerly line of Broad Street 85 feet to the northeast corner of the present post office lot; thence 61 degrees northwest 115' more or less, then north 29 degrees east 85' to the southerly line of 31st Street; thence 61 degrees east along the southerly line of 31st Street 115' more or less to the place of beginning.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
NA			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
NA			

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ethel N. Hayes

ORGANIZATION

Field Real Estate and Buildings Office

DATE

3/7/83

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Drawer 3744

TELEPHONE

901/521-3131

CITY OR TOWN

Memphis

STATE

Tennessee

# 12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

## STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

*Herbert L. Hayes*  
Deputy 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

*Glenn W. Boyer*

TITLE

Director, Office of Real Estate

DATE

5/10/83 (See letter)

### FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*Delores Byers*

Entered in the  
National Register

DATE

6/30/83

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER