



United States Department of Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Antigo Post Office
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 501 Clermont Street N/A not for publication
city or town Antigo N/A vicinity
state Wisconsin code WI county Langlade code 67 zip code 54409

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets / does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally / statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets / does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Alicia J. Corley
Signature of commenting official/Title

July 26, 2000
Date

Deputy SHPO - WI
State or Federal agency and bureau

Antigo Post Office

Langlade County

Wisconsin

Name of Property

County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register.

___ See continuation sheet.

___ determined eligible for the National Register.

___ See continuation sheet.

___ determined not eligible for the National Register.

___ See continuation sheet.

___ removed from the National Register.

___ other, (explain):

Edson H. Beall

10/24/00

Edson H. Beall

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as apply)

private

public-local

public-State

public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

building(s)

district

structure

site

object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

contributing

1

noncontributing

0 buildings

sites

structures

objects

1

0 total

Name of related multiple property listing:
(Enter "N/A" if property not part of a multiple property listing.)

United States Post Office Construction 1913-1943

State of Wisconsin - Milwaukee District

Number of contributing resources is previously listed in the National Register

0

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)

Classical Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation Limestone

walls Brick

roof

other Terra Cotta

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1916

Significant Dates

1916

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Wetmore, James

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Antigo Post Office
Name of Property

Langlade County
County and State

Wisconsin

9. Major Bibliographic References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

- 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
- Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less Than One Acre _____

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	3/3/0/6/1/0	5/0/0/0/4/1/0	3	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone Easting Northing
2	_____			4	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone Easting Northing

See Continuation Sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Charles W. Causier, AICP and Joseph G. Jurkiewicz, AIA	date	12-29-93
organization	HNTB	telephone	414-359-2300
street & number	11270 Wet Park Place	zip code	53224
city or town	Milwaukee	state	Wisconsin

Antigo Post Office
Name of Property

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County and State

Wisconsin

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name/title	John S. Sorenson, Program Manager, Historic Preservation				
organization	US Postal Service, Customer Service Facilities				
street&number	475 L'Enfant Plaza			telephone	202-268-3107
city or town	Washington	state	DC	zip code	20260-6235

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Section 7

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Antigo Post Office, Langlade County, Wisconsin

Narrative Description

The Antigo Post Office was built in 1916 to the designs of the Supervising Architect's Office. The cornerstone of the building reads: "William G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, James A. Wetmore, Acting Supervising Architect, 1916." The Neo-Classical Revival style building is of tan brick with terra cotta and limestone detailing. The brick is laid in American bond with recessed mortar joints. It has a flat roof and sits on a raised, limestone foundation. The post office is located in the downtown business district of Antigo, Wisconsin.

The front elevation of the Antigo Post Office consists of a recessed, two-story central block with one-story side pavilions. Giant order brick pilasters with molded bases and acanthus leaf capitals define the central block. The pilasters support an elaborate terra cotta entablature with an architrave and frieze. The entablature is richly decorated with a variety of classical motifs. At the center of the frieze are raised metal letters stating "United States Post Office." Above the entablature is a projecting, denticulated cornice that wraps around the central block. Giving added height to this portion of the building is a tall, brick parapet with slight projections in line with the pilasters below. The building is capped by stone coping.

The two end pilasters on either side are set closer together. The others form frames for window and door openings. The ground floor openings have arched heads, the upper floor windows are rectangular. Above the first floor windows are keystones. These rise to the level of a decorative belt course that runs between the pilasters. The six-over-six upper windows rest on a continuous stone lintel, also running between the pilasters. The windows rise to the height of the entablature.

The side pavilions have an arched recess at their centers. Within the brick recess is a square-headed, six-over-six window. Above the arch is a keystone rising to the level of a slightly projecting cornice. This cornice corresponds in height to the stringcourse of the main block. The parapet above the cornice rises to the level of the continuous lintel of the main block. It is capped by stone coping. Suggestions of pilasters are found on either side of the arched opening. These are slight projections of the brickwork. The projection continues into the parapet. The slight stepping forward of the cornice, water table, and coping reinforces their image as pilasters.

The side elevations of the front block follow the pattern of the end pavilions. However, since there is a broader expanse of wall, these side elevations have two pilaster projections to add interest to the wall plane. The original back portion of the building has two arched window openings per side.

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The interior lobby retains many of its original features. The space has a marble floor and marble wainscot. Pilasters with capitals support the vaulted plaster ceiling.

The Antigo Post Office has had exterior alterations. These include a new addition with a loading dock at the rear of the building. A handicap access ramp has been added at the front. These additions do not compromise the integrity of the original structure. The only change of note is the addition of aluminum storm windows over the original windows. The building is in good condition.

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Narrative Statement of Significance

The Antigo Post Office is evaluated in the context of the multiple property nomination "United States Post Office Construction from 1913 to 1943, State Of Wisconsin - Milwaukee District." The building is nominated under Criterion C for Architecture, as an example of Neo-Classical Revival design for a small city's post office by the federal Supervising Architect's office.

Historic Context

The 1916 Antigo Post Office is the first federally owned post office building in Antigo and provided the first permanent home for postal services in the community. Prior to the construction of this building, the local post office was located in facilities selected by the postmaster. The first postmaster of Antigo was Nels Anderson. He ran the post office from his log store between the years 1879 and 1882. The site for the current post office was purchased from the Antigo Canning Company in 1911. The Antigo Post Office building dates from 1916 and was constructed at a cost of \$60,000.¹

As part of the larger group of federally owned post offices in Wisconsin, the Antigo Post Office represents a class of buildings constructed during the transition from individual designs to a set of standardized plans. The McAdoo classification system was adopted in 1915 and specified materials and the level of decoration based on postal receipts and the class of city. More information on the classification system is found in the multiple property nomination. Because the land for the new post office was purchased in 1911, plans for the building may have been prepared several years before the adoption of the McAdoo system.

Significance

The Antigo Post Office is significant under Criterion C for Architecture as an excellent local example of the Neo-Classical Revival style architecture, as used in the design of a public building. Elements of the style, as seen here, include the two-story pilasters and the large cornice with the parapet above. Other aspects of the design are more closely allied with the concurrent Beaux-Arts Classicism. These elements include the use of side pavilions, arched openings, and the rich embellishment of the frieze. These latter features and the use of brick as a building material give a somewhat lighter note to the design.

The building is also representative of the era of post office construction prior to the Depression when many post offices were built as public works projects. The majority of post offices included in this multiple property nomination date from the 1930s and are representative of this period. These post

¹ Robert M. Dessureau, History of Langlade County, Wisconsin (Antigo: 1922): 147-148.

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offices tend to be smaller and highly standardized in their plans and materials. In contrast, the Antigo Post Office is representative of an earlier period of post office construction. Post offices of this earlier era are more individualized in their design, tend to be somewhat larger, and have a higher degree of ornamentation.

The post office presents an imposing image in Antigo's downtown. The building is taller than the commercial buildings adjacent to it and its architectural features, such as the tall pilasters and large entablature and projecting cornice, help portray an image of a solid federal presence. The building has remained largely intact and the noteworthy decorative features remain unaltered and without substantial deterioration. Also of note is the largely intact lobby with its vaulted ceiling. The Antigo Post Office remains a prominent building in Antigo's downtown. The sympathetic additions to the rear do not detract from the original composition and the overall integrity of the building is high.

In conclusion, the Antigo Post Office is eligible for listing under Criterion C for Architecture as a local example of the Neo-Classical Revival style and as an example of post office architecture prior to the widespread post office construction program undertaken by the federal government in the 1930s.

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9. Major Bibliographic References

The following resources were consulted in addition to those included in the multiple property nomination:

Antigo Post Office. Building cornerstone.

Dessureau, Robert M. History of Langlade County, Wisconsin. Antigo: 1922.

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property corresponds to the following legal description: City original plat, Lots 17, 18 and 19, Block 44.

Boundary Justification

This boundary encompasses the Antigo Post Office, parking lot, and surrounding yard. This is the extent of the original property holding.

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Photos

The following information is the same for all of the photographs:

Antigo Post Office
Antigo, Langlade County, Wisconsin
Photographed by Joseph Jurkiewicz, 1993
Negatives at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin

1. Corner view of side pavilion, looking southwest.
2. Detail of front façade, looking east.
3. Cornerstone.
4. Rear elevation, looking west.
5. Side elevation, looking north.
6. General street view, looking north.
7. Front elevation, looking east.
8. Façade detail, side pavilion.
9. Façade detail, side pavilion.
10. Interior view, lobby.