

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 15 1983
DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

U.S. Main Post Office - Auburn, Alabama

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

144 Tichenor Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Auburn

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3

STATE

Alabama

CODE
01

COUNTY

Lee

CODE

081

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 type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<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)

U. S. Postal Service

STREET & NUMBER

475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W.

CITY, TOWN

Washington

VICINITY OF

STATE

DC 20260

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Probate Judges Office

STREET & NUMBER

Lee County Court House - South Ninth St. P. O. Box 2266

CITY, TOWN

Opelika

STATE

AL 36801

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historical Report - Auburn, AL - Main Post Office

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Field Real Estate and Buildings Office

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta,

STATE

Georgia 30341

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		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The main post office, located at 144 Tichsnor Avenue in Auburn, Alabama, is in the central business district (CBD). No historically significant buildings were observed in the vicinity of this building.

This building was constructed in 1933 and opened for service on October 1, 1933. It is one of the most impressive postal facilities in the State of Alabama. The building is a one story structure with a basement and mezzanine floor. The first floor contains 10,736 gross square feet, the basement has 7121 square feet and the mezzanine has 545 net square feet. There was an expansion of the facility made in 1968 which added 3615 square feet on the first floor.

The exterior of the building is common red brick laid in a flemish bond style. The front facade has loggia arched case openings constructed with red brick. The style resembles Georgia Revival Architecture with heavy federal influence. The roof over the second story area is a Spanish clay tile hip roof, however, it is not visible except from about a block away and does not give a Spanish influence to the design. The windows are arched, double hung wood sash with 12/12 lights and recessed fan lights in the arch portion. There are four spiral type windows at the corners which are also double hung wood sash with 12/12 lights. All the lintels are plain constructed with cut granite. The sills are slipsill style, also constructed with cut granite. The coping and chimney cap are constructed with the same material. About three feet below the cap is a frieze layer or belt made of granite with every third stone having a four leaf clover carved into it. The steps leading into the building are made of granite.

The interior of the building is also more impressive than most postal facilities. The service and box lobby have natural mahogany wainscotting with decorative trim on the top. The floors are a light brown terrazzo with a slightly darker brown terrazzo border.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Description ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

The baseboard is ~~Compania Light Rose Tennessee marble~~ which is brownish in color. The wainscotting on the interior stairway leading to the basement is the same kind of marble. The plaster walls and louvers in the customer lobby are painted orange and blue which are the school colors of Auburn. There are six panels of very decorative louvers over the lock box and service counter. The postmaster has probably the most impressive door into his office of any postal facility in Alabama. It was constructed with carved natural mahogany with a decorative broken pediment with an urn in the center and supported by mahogany pilisters.

The workroom area has part asphalt plank floors and part hardwood parquet. The new addition part has painted concrete block walls and the original part has plaster walls with hardwood wainscotting. Ceilings throughout are acoustical tile and lighting is with stem mounted fluorescent fixtures.

The basement is about half finished for office space. The finished area has clay tile floors and plaster walls and ceilings over clay tile blocks. Due to moisture there is some peeling paint and the area is generally not very attractive. This area is mostly used for storage of equipment and records and is not in view of the general public.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES 1933

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Charles H. Barnes

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Auburn Post Office was constructed during 1933 by Charles H. Barnes Construction Company of Logansport, Indiana. The Construction engineer for the government was Major H. G. Little. The facility was open for service on October 1, 1933. The supervising architect on the site was J. A. Wolevere. The cut stone contractor was Edward Edinger of Bedford, Indiana.

A substantial addition, costing \$195,000, was made to this building and completed on December 25, 1968. This added 3615 square feet to the first floor. This addition matches the original structure so well it is impossible to detect without very careful observation.

The cornerstone reads as follows:

Ogden L. Mills
Secretary of Treasury
James H. Wetmore
Acting Supervising Architect

The postmasters serving in this facility are as follows:

Levi A. Knapp - Prior to construction to 1940
Homer Wright - About 1940 to 3/43
Katherine D. Wright - 3/43 to 1961
Jake G. Hitchcock - 1961 to 1976
Charles H. Dawson - 1976 to Present

The building is architecturally one of the more impressive postal facilities in the State of Alabama. Its design and construction features warrant consideration for nomination to the National Register.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Information obtained from files located at the Post Office.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.66 of an acre

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	6
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6	4	1	5	4	3
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3	6	10	8	1	8	0
---	---	----	---	---	---	---

 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

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--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is outlined in yellow on the attached map.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Hugh B. Hicks, Realty Management and Acquisition Specialist

ORGANIZATION

Field Real Estate and Buildings Office

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

2245 Perimeter Park Dr. - Suite 17

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Atlanta, Ga 30341

STATE

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES NO

NONE

[Signature]
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

[Signature]

TITLE Director, Office of Real Estate

DATE 3/11/83

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

[Signature]
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Entered in the
National Register

DATE 6/21/83

ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

