UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY		
		1
RECEIVED DEC 1	9 1985	
DATE ENTERED	1/22/84	,

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Iamar Post Office

Lamar Main Post Office

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 300 S. 5th Street		NANOT FOR PUBLICATION		
CITY, TOWN		CONGRESSIONAL DIST	RICT	
Lamar	NA_ VICINITY OF	4		
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE	
Colorado	08	Prowers	099	

2 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESI	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	-XPUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	BOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	-EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	NAIN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	_XGOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
X Thematic	BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
Group		NO	MILITARY	OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS // United States Post	fapplicable) al Service, Western Regional Offi	ce	
STREET & NUMBER	•		
850 Cherry Ave.			
CITY, TOWN	NT7	STATE	
San Bruno	NA VICINITY OF	CA	94099
5 LOCATION OF 	LEGAL DESCRIPTION		
COURTHOUSE.	Prowers County Assessor		
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.	Prowers County Courthouse		
STREET & NUMBER P.O. BOX 388			
CITY TOWN		STATE	
Lamar		CO	81052
6 REPRESENTAT	ION IN EXISTING SURVEYS		
TITLE			
None Know	n.		
DATE			
	FEDERAL	STATECOUNTYLOCA	NL
DEPOSITORY FOR			
SURVEY RECORDS			
CITY, TOWN		STATE	



(CONDITION	CHECK ONE	CHECK (DNE
XEXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	X_UNALTERED	X_ORIGINAL	SITE
GOOD	RUINS	ALTERED	MOVED	DATE_NA
FAIR	UNEXPOSED			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Lamar Main Post Office is a rectangular structure, with a two-story portion along the southern side. The building (1936) is in the Starved Classicism style, with certain Spanish Colonial motifs. It has an asymmetrical front elevation and a tile roof.

LOCAL CONTEXT

Lamar is an agricultural and cattle raising center in the Arkansas River Valley. It was founded in 1886 and named for Lucius Quintius Lamar, Secretary of State under Grover Cleveland. The historic Santa Fe Trail once passed through the town. The post office is located one block west of the central business district, and area which contains a number of early 20th century buildings. There is an excellent neo-classic courthouse built in 1927 located several blocks east of the post office, and there are no designated historic districts in the community.

The original site survey in 1935 indicates that there were two small two-story frame residences and one small single-story frame residence on the site. These houses faced south. There are no known historic, archaeologic, or paleontologic sites within or adjacent to the subject property.

PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building appears to be in excellent structural condition, and both it and the site are being well maintained.

The structure is constructed of hollow tile block and brick covered with stucco. It has a composition roof with a raised Spanish tile section along the length of the front elevation. The front of the public area is carpeted over the original tile and there is a limestone wainscotting. The workroom floor is maple. The foundation is brick.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet	Lamar	PO	Item number 7	Page 1

The structure is considered in the Spanish Colonial Revival style. Features of note are: the ten course high brick base along the foundation line; pilasters with simple capitals; heavy wooden shutters, and a small upper window with inset molding and a peaked top on the second story, south side of the front elevation; "rosette" vent on the north elevation; fancy brick work under the windows on the side and rear elevation; and standard specification lanterns flanking the entrance. This structure is stylistically similar to several post offices in Southern California, notably La Jolla, Alhambra, Anaheim, Oceanside, and Orange. No similar buildings are known to exist in Arizona or New Mexico.



PERIOD	D AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899 X_1900-	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC AGRICULTURE X-ARCHITECTURE ART COMMERCE COMMUNICATIONS	COMMUNITY PLANNING CONSERVATION ECONOMICS EDUCATION ENGINEERING EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT INDUSTRY INVENTION	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE LAW LITERATURE MILITARY MUSIC PHILOSOPHY POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	RELIGION SCIENCE SCULPTURE SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN THEATER TRANSPORTATION OTHER (SPECIEY)	
SPECIFIC DATES 1936 BUILDER/ARCHITECT OSA/Louis A. Simon, Sup. Arch. Walter DeMordant, Architect					

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lamar Main Post Office is unique as the only remaining post office of its type in Colorado. It is an especially pleasing example of the Spanish Colonial/Mediterranean influence on Starved Classicism of the mid-to-late 1930s.

ARCHITECTURE

The building is significant under National Register Criterion C as embodying the distinctive characteristics of a type, as well as possessing high artistic values. Most smaller post offices relied on a standard, rigidly symmetrical plan, and simply applied pre-cast ornament to give the building its identity. This building, though conforming to the functional requirements of the Postal Service, exhibits more irregular volumes and asymmetrical plan typical of the Spanish Colonial and other Mediterranean Revival styles commonly employed in private projects.

The building is unique to Postal owned facilities in Colorado, although there is another Mediterranean inspired designed post office located in Alamosa, which is now owned and used by the local government. However, many smaller post offices constructed in Southern California in the mid-thirties were designed in some form of the Spanish Colonial/Mediterranean Revival. Most of these buildings have been heavily modified, not uncommonly beyond recognition as Mediterranean buildings.

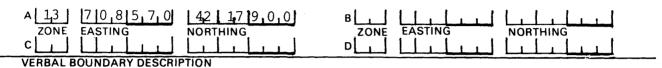
The architect of the Lamar Post Office is identified on the original plans as being Walter De Mordaunt, 738 Thatcher Building, Pueblo, Colorado. No other information about him was discovered.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

None Known.

10GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY + .57 ACTES

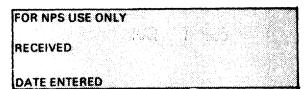


Lots 1,2,3, and the north one-half of lot 4; Block 35; orginal Lamar Townsite. (see attached map)

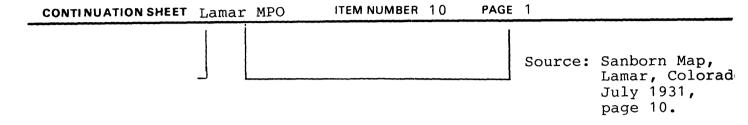
LIST ALL STATES AND	COUNTIES FOR PROPERTI	ES OVERLAPP	NG STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
state NA	code NA	COUNTY NA	code NA
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
NA	NA	NA	NA.
11 FORM PREPARED	BY		
Paul R. Secord, Vice	President/H.	James Ko	lva
ORGANIZATION Beland/Associates, I	Institute	for Urba	n DATE August 1984/August 1985
STREET & NUMBER			TELEPHONE
16 S. Oakland Ave.,S	Suite 204/W. 70	<u>5 Ist Av</u>	e. (818)796-8093/(509)458-621 STATE
Pasadena	/Spoka	no	CA 91101/WA 99204
	HISTORIC PRESERVATIC YESNO		NONESUALEL STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE
	peen allowed 90 days in wh pated level of significance is	ich to present t	to the National Register, certifying that the State he nomination to the State Review Board and to
TITLE Director, Of	fice of Real E	state	DATE December 17, 1985
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS		N THE NATION	AL REGISTER
See Continu	alim Sheet	for les	lang DATE
DIRECTOR. OFFICE OF ARCHEC	LOGY AND HISTORIC PR	ESERVATION	DATE
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL RE	GISTER		

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