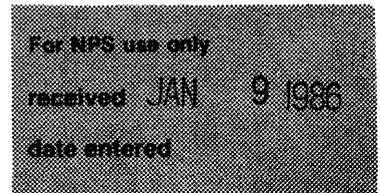


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet Murray Kentucky
Multiple Resource

Item number 7

Page 2

Name: Murray Post Office

Location: Corner Maple and
South 4th Street

Owner: Calloway County
County Courthouse
Murray, KY 42071

Classification: Building

Description: The old Murray Post Office has a prominent location on the Murray town square at the corner of Maple and S. 4th St. This one-story Classical Revival structure is constructed of brick with sandstone details. The main entrance is centrally located in a slightly recessed loggia with eight Ionic columns and six window bays. The large windows have 12-over-12 sashes. Each window has a sandstone sill and a stone panel rising above it. The Ionic columns support a stone beltcourse that runs across the building. A dentilled cornice runs above this. A beautiful standing seam hipped copper roof rises above the building.

The building is especially notable for its intricate brickwork used to create diamonds, panels, and rectangles. This brickwork creates variety and highlights on the building's front and two sides.

The rear wing of the building has matching windows, cornice, and a stone foundation. The back of this wing retains the original loading dock and ramp from the building's use as a post office. The interior of the building was completely altered when it was converted into governmental offices. No original details remain visible on the interior.

Significance: The old Post Office is a handsome example of Classical architecture. This structure was built in 1931 during a period of government-sponsored construction that was a response to the economic sluggishness of the Depression. At the time of construction, the Murray post office was the largest ever constructed in the United States for a town the size of Murray. Such a commitment by the federal government must have been a recognition of the potential for growth and prosperity in Murray.

The post office was built under postmaster M. L. Whitnell, who was appointed to his post in 1922. At the time of its construction, the post office required five clerks, two city letter carriers, and nine rural free delivery carriers.

Acreage: App. .4 acre. UTM References: (Murray Quadrangle) 16/383580/4052160

Verbal Boundary Description: shown on accompanying Murray tax map as lot 1, block 4.