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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Nat. Register of Historic Places
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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico
other names/site number Building No. 5, Community Center Group No. 2; New Mexico State Register #1870

2. Location

street & number 199 Central Park Square not for publication
city or town Los Alamos vicinity
state New Mexico code NM county Los Alamos code 028 zip code 87544

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
 national statewide X local
Jeff Pappas 5/26/15
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Dr. Jeff Pappas, New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
Donald B. Delaney May 14, 2015
Signature of commenting official Date
Federal Preservation Officer United States Postal Service
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
 other (explain:)
Lee Edson H. Beall 8.3.15
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

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

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

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.)

Modern Movement: Moderne

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Concrete, Stone

roof: Asphalt

other: Metal

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Los Alamos post office, designed by W.C. Kruger and Associates, is a one-story and basement federal building displaying a mixture of modern and Territorial Revival design. Constructed in 1948, as part of a federally financed community center, the building is distinguished by its play of massing, varied exterior surface finishes, and decorative thunderbird design grilles above doorways. Built as Los Alamos' first permanent post office, the building continues to function as the town's main postal facility. With few changes to its interior and exterior details, the post office maintains a high degree of integrity to its location, design, workmanship, and materials.

Narrative Description

The Los Alamos post office, at 199 Central Park Square, is situated on a level parcel of land in the core of Los Alamos' business district. The building faces south on Central Avenue and is bordered by a concrete sidewalk. To the west of the main entrance, a strip of landscaped ground serves as a buffer between the sidewalk and the post office. This area is landscaped with lawn and a line of evergreen shrubs along the foundation of the building. A steel flagpole is situated near the center of the lawn. To the west are the grounds of Fuller Lodge and a portion of the area that comprises the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory Historic District (NRHP 1966). To the north and east, the post office abuts the former the Community Center, now a collection of independent retail stores and businesses that have been recently renovated and reveal none of their original design and architectural detail. Recent light standards, concrete planters, and a wooden bench constructed as part of street improvement project are within view of the post office, but do not detract from its historical appearance and integrity.

Exterior The Los Alamos post office is a one-story and basement, irregular plan building composed of concrete and stone. The front façade along Central Avenue displays three distinct volumes, each with a different textural finish and composition. The central core is composed of cut limestone and divided into seven bays. The upper half of each bay is ornamented with a decorative metal thunderbird rendered in a moderne style. Below the thunderbirds are anodized aluminum panels covering radiators located within the interior of the building. An entry door to the lobby is situated in the second to last bay at each end of the elevation. The entries consist of divided aluminum and glass frame doors. Above the bays are the words "United States Post Office" incised in stone. To the west, and pushing out beyond the center core, is a windowless rectangular volume finished with red-orange stucco and Territorial-style brick coping. Raised metal letters across its face state "Los Alamos," "New Mexico," "87544." Setback to the east is a taller rectangular shaped clock tower finished with Texas limestone laid in a random ashlar pattern. Ghosting on the upper south and east corners of the tower show the former location of a clock. Below the clock tower, and also constructed of Texas limestone, is a planter containing a mature juniper. The planter continues east along the perimeter of the building.

A service drive defines the west boundary of the property and gives access to loading dock across the west elevation of the building. The Territorial style of the front façade continues along this elevation, which is divided into five truck bays sheltered by a non-historic metal shed roof. The shed roof addition was built in c.1988 to provide shelter over the service bays. Beyond the service bays is a lower concrete volume containing the main loading dock accessed from the north. To the east, a low, single-story volume constituting the north elevation continues as a rectangle punctuated with a symmetrical fenestration of divided light metal windows. Because of the service nature of this side of the building, the architectural detail is kept to a minimum with only the Territorial-style coping distinguishing this elevation. Setback from this volume is the center core of the main building finished with the same brick coping and punctuated with a series of metal clerestory lights proving light into an interior work area. Texas limestone faces most of the east elevation. A small volume comprising a former worker's lounge pushes out from the main building and is faced with Texas limestone along its lower portion.

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Interior The entry doors lead into to a long, rectangular lobby finished with green, black, and white-flecked terrazzo flooring. The tall rectangular posts and decorative grilles create an interesting play of light and shadow along the otherwise austere lobby. The lobby is dominated by a box nest of P.O. boxes across its north and west walls. Formerly there were roll-up service windows and letter drops along the east end of the north wall. The service windows and letters drops were removed in 1978 and replaced with a box nest that now spans the entire north wall. The original pendant light fixtures were also most likely removed as part of this upgrade. Beyond the lobby, to the north, is a modern service and sales area built in 1978, by pushing into part of the workroom area. Beyond the public lobby is the work area, composed of an open workroom, postmaster's office, vault, and restrooms. Above the work area are catwalks and a lookout gallery. An enclosed porch at the northeast corner that formerly served as a break room is now used for storage. The basement area, which once contained a transformer vault and storage and locker rooms has been consolidated but retains its essential division of space. Despite the relocation of the service area and the removal of a number of original fixtures, the interior of the building, communicates the historic use of this space.

The Community Center has been substantially rebuilt since its construction in the late 1940s and bears little resemblance to its historic appearance. The Community Center is not eligible for listing in the National Register. The Los Alamos Post Office, however, has experienced relatively few alterations. Changes to the exterior have been minimal, consisting mainly of adding a metal shed roof across part of the west elevation over the truck bays. Alterations to the interior have included the closure of the original service windows and the addition of a new service/sales area at the rear of the lobby. These changes have not significantly diminished the overall historic architectural integrity of the post office's design, workmanship, and materials that qualify it for listing in the National Register.

Character-Defining Features

Character-defining features are the visual aspects and physical features of a building that enable it to convey its historic identity. The period of significance for the United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico is 1947 to 1965. The exterior of the building has sustained few alterations since its construction in 1947. Most notably, a covered side stair on the south side was partially enclosed. The loading dock and the parking area are not character-defining features. The building exterior and site maintain a high level of historic integrity, with original design, materials, and workmanship intact.

The interior lobby has been substantially altered since its construction in 1947 and no longer maintains its historic architectural integrity. The lobby retains its historic terrazzo floor and limestone piers that line the south side of the lobby; nonetheless, the addition of new post office boxes has changed the floor plan and reduced the size of the public space. In addition, the lobby is now lighted by non-historic fluorescent lights. The historic customer-service windows are no longer visible and current retail services have been moved from the lobby to the small enclosed porch.

Historic character-defining features include the following:

Building Exterior

- The overall massing of rectangular forms of various heights.
- The limestone ashlar, rock-faced limestone, and stucco exterior materials.
- The Territorial Revival-style brick cornice.
- The flat roofline.

Building Façade

- The three-part composition of the main façade, including the center entrance, stucco-covered block on the west, and the limestone tower on the east.
- The seven-bay pattern of fenestration on the main façade.

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- The limestone ashlar piers with “United States Post Office” incised on the entablature.
- The scalloped aluminum bulkheads below the windows.
- The aluminum windows and doors.
- The seven decorative cast-metal thunderbird motifs, which appear in the windows. Although the artist has not been definitively identified, these are likely original artworks commissioned by the War Department.

Site

- The open plaza at the main entrance is constructed of concrete scored in four-foot squares from the entrance to the sidewalk. The sidewalk provides a public space and a monumental entrance to a significant public building. This plaza appears on the original plans and in early photos (figure 4).
- The garden or “planting area” as denoted in the original plans, is located on the east side of the building. The garden is surrounded by a wall built of Texas limestone laid in random ashlar. This pattern is consistent with the use of limestone throughout the building and is an extension of the building itself.
- A limestone planter laid in random ashlar, located east of the main entrance, is also integral to the design of the building.

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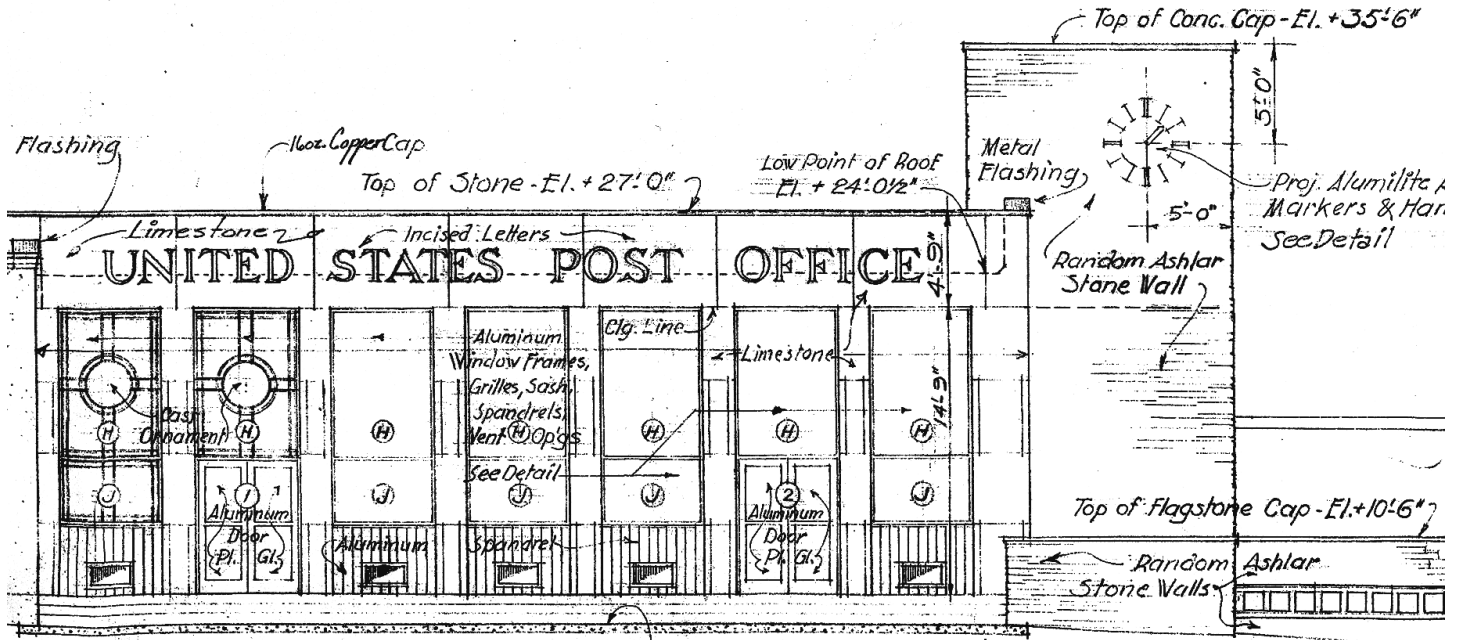


Figure 1. Partial View of South Elevation/Front Façade (Sept. 6, 1947); courtesy U.S. Postal Service

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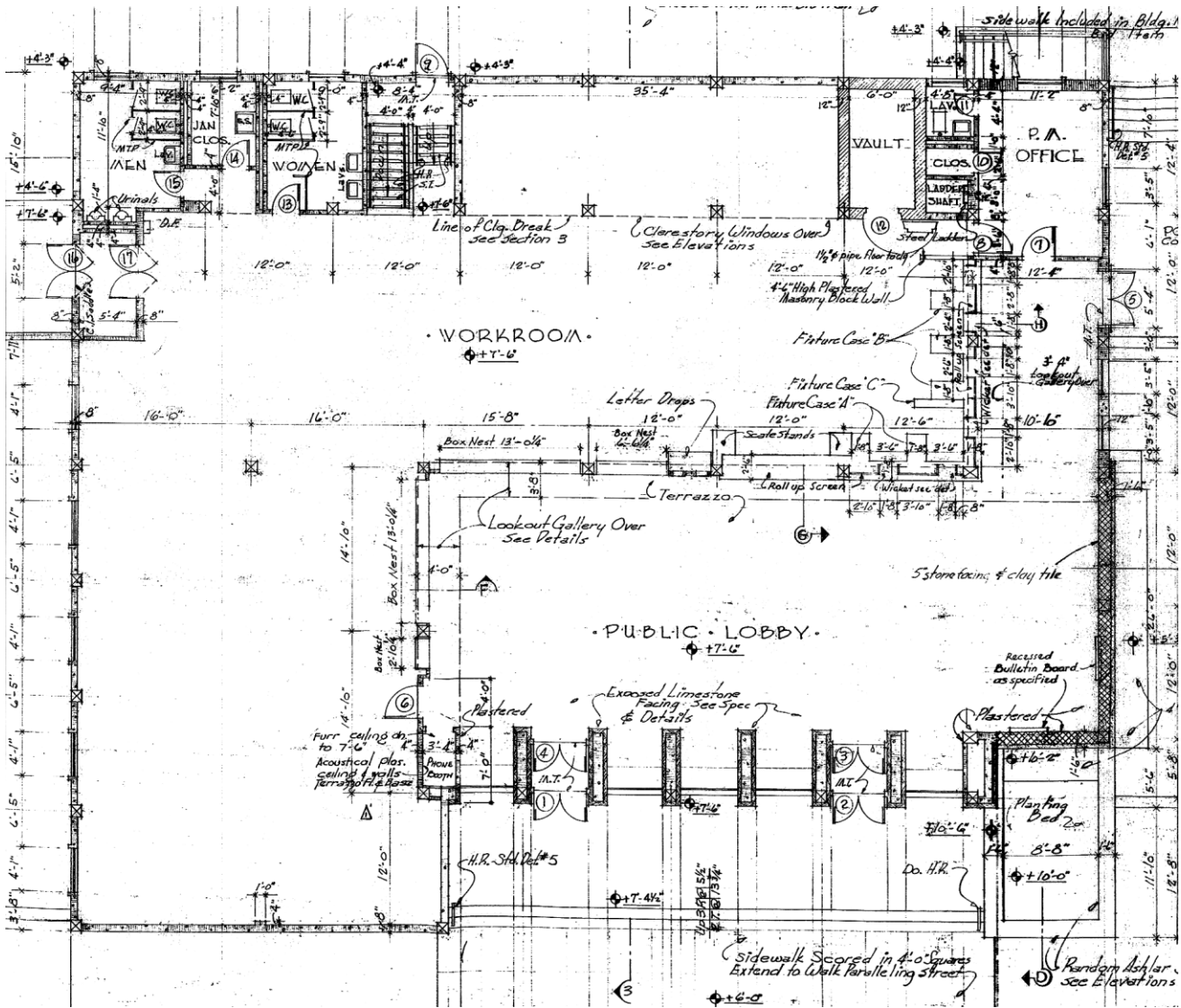


Figure 2. Partial View of Ground Floor Plan (Sept. 6, 1947); courtesy U.S. Postal Service

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Community Planning and Development

Period of Significance

1947-1965

Significant Dates

1947-USPO—Los Alamos constructed

1948-USPO—Los Alamos placed in operation by United States Post Office Department

1963-USPO—Los Alamos acquired by United States Post Office Department

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

W. C. Kruger Company (architects-engineers)

Robert E. McKee Company (contractor/builder)

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Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1947, when the United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico was constructed, and ends in 1965, the fifty-year end date and the end of the historic period when the post office served the Los Alamos community. The post office continues to serve the Los Alamos community.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Los Alamos Post Office, designed by W.C. Kruger and Associates, is the first permanent post office built in Los Alamos. Constructed as part of a multi-million dollar Community Center funded by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), the solidly built building signaled the AEC's ambitions of developing Los Alamos into a permanent scientific and civilian city. Distinguished by its interesting combination of massing and surface textures and distinctive ornamental thunderbird grilles, the Los Alamos Post Office is significant in W.C. Kruger's career as a transitional work between his New Deal commissions and his evolving interest in modern architecture that culminated in his design for the 1960s New Mexico State Capitol Complex. Despite the great changes that have affected the character of the Community Center, the post office remains similar in appearance to its original design. Reflecting the federal government's role in community development at Los Alamos, the post office is eligible at the local level of significance under Criterion A, Community Planning and Development. As a transitional work of W.C. Kruger, the post office is additionally eligible under Criterion C, Architecture at the local level of significance.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico, located on Central Avenue in downtown Los Alamos, is the first permanent post office constructed in Los Alamos, New Mexico. It is a modern-style building with elements of the Territorial Revival style. Built by the Atomic Energy Commission and operated by the United States Postal Service, the monumental building reflects the ambitions of the AEC to develop Los Alamos into a permanent scientific and civilian city. The concrete-and-stone building, which continues to operate as post office, is a community landmark building in Los Alamos.

The United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under National Register Criterion A in the area of community planning and development because of the federal government's role in building the post office at Los Alamos. The Atomic Energy Commission built the post office as part of a larger Community Center project. After the war, as part of the effort by the AEC to retain qualified personnel, the agency sought to transform the military installation into an attractive town, which included new schools, shopping, recreational facilities, and other infrastructure improvements. The Los Alamos post office is among the earliest permanent public buildings and its location in the center of town reflects its importance to the community. On May 9, 1947, before the building was completed, the War Department turned over control of the post office to the United States Post Office Department.

The Los Alamos post office is eligible for listing in the National Register at the local level under National Register Criterion C in the area of architecture because it is an excellent example of modern architecture that incorporates architectural elements of New Mexico, such as the brick cornice, a feature of the Territorial Revival style, and the

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stylized Thunderbird motifs cast in aluminum above the doors, a Native American motif. The rectilinear massing and the monumental colonnade are elements of stripped classicism, which was popular in the 1930s and 1940s. The lack of ornament, except the cast-aluminum sculptures, is also a feature of modernism. The Los Alamos post office is a transitional work of architect W.C. Kruger, who in the 1960s designed the New Mexico State Capitol Complex.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Located on the Parajito Plateau, northwest of Santa Fe, Los Alamos began as a Hispanic homestead settlement in the 1880s, sustaining through the first decades of the twentieth century a small population of seasonal homesteaders and the students and faculty of the Los Alamos Ranch School, an exclusive secondary school for boys. The earliest post office, named Otowi, was located at the Ranch School, with the school's director, Albert J. Connell, serving as the first Postmaster. Opened on November 9, 1920, the small post office provided service to primarily school faculty and students. Mail arrived daily via the Denver and Rio Grande Railway to Otowi Crossing, a railroad siding along the Rio Grande, approximately 15 miles east of Los Alamos. From there it was transported across the river to be hauled by horse up the rough Parajito Plateau to the school. In early 1941, a petition was sent to Washington, D.C. to change the name of the post office from Otowi to Los Alamos. The change was approved on April 1, 1941.

The bucolic existence of the school and surrounding homesteaders came to an abrupt end in 1942, when Los Alamos was selected by the U.S. Government for the location of Site Y, the secretive atomic bomb laboratory administered under the Manhattan Project. With great expediency, the Ranch School and occupants of surrounding homesteads were notified on December 1, 1942 to immediately vacate their property. The Manhattan Project initially used the infrastructure of the Los Alamos Ranch School, including the post office to house its programs. As part of the takeover, the Los Alamos Post Office was scheduled to close, but continued, due to a number of delay orders, to operate until 1947.

For the duration of the war, the Los Alamos Post Office existed in name only. Due to the secrecy of the Manhattan Project, the post office had no scheduled mail transportation. Instead, mail for civilian and military personnel was addressed to post office boxes in Santa Fe and Los Angeles. The mail was then carried from the secretive "mail drops" to Los Alamos by Military Police. There was strict censorship on all incoming and outgoing mail. Even birth certificates of babies born in Los Alamos during the war listed "P.O. Box 1663, Santa Fe, New Mexico" as their place of birth. Only after the war, when the knowledge of Los Alamos' role in developing the atomic bomb became known, did regular mail service return to Los Alamos. At the end of the war, the War Department opened a Base Post Office to distribute departmental mail. The wartime post office (Building T-255), a temporary wood building was located near the Gamma Building scientific laboratory, served as the community's only post office.

After the war, with its original mission accomplished, Los Alamos faced an uncertain future.¹ As many scientists and technicians — the driving force behind the Manhattan Project — began to leave Los Alamos, laboratory director Robert Oppenheimer and General Groves pressed for continued development, production, and maintenance of atomic weapons.² It became crucial with the federal government's creation of a permanent research facility, the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, that Los Alamos evolve from a temporary Army post to a modern city, with sufficient civilian amenities to keep scientist and technical personnel at the laboratory.³

¹ Craig Martin. *Quads, Shoeboxes, and Sunken Living Rooms: A History of Los Alamos Housing*. Los Alamos: Los Alamos Historical Society, 1999: 21.

² The number of workers at the laboratory plummeted from 3,000 in August 1945 to 1,000 by January 1946. Ibid: 22.

³ Marjorie Bell Chambers and Linda K. Aldrich. *Los Alamos, New Mexico: A Survey to 1949*. Los Alamos: Los Alamos Historical Society, 1999: 34

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One of the greatest needs at the time was to improve the substandard housing that was constructed hastily during the war. Replacing Oppenheimer, one of Norris Bradbury's first tasks as laboratory director was to create new housing units, with the idea that the growth of the laboratory would not precede housing and social services. Part of the effort to retain qualified personnel, included the AEC's funding to construct schools, recreational facilities, and other infrastructure improvements. To give guidance to this development, the laboratory sponsored a planning conference on February 23, 1946, where nation-wide city planners and design consultants met with Army and laboratory staff to determine the needs of the community.⁴ A result of the conference, the laboratory, under the direction of planner Lawrence B. Sheridan, developed a master plan for future development. The plan, developed between February and June 1946, conceived of a new Los Alamos, replacing all wartime housing with modern units situated in neighborhoods reflecting the latest ideas in city planning.⁵

Part of this plan called for a four-million-dollar Community Center project that provided a mix of retail stores and recreational and social services to the developing community. Isolated from retail businesses and recreational amenities, the AEC launched an ambitious five-year program to create a combined community and shopping center for Los Alamos, which included the construction of a modern, 7,000-square-foot post office. Preliminary plans for the Community Center plans were approved by the AEC's Washington, D.C. office on September 6, 1946, and by July 1947, the AEC had authorized the final plans and specifications for construction to begin on the project. The construction contract for the project was awarded to the Robert E. McKee Construction Company for \$1,795,462, the only bidder on the project and the builder of most of the postwar housing at Los Alamos. Work began in early November 1947, with center fully occupied by November 1948.

Santa Fe architect W. C. Kruger, who had designed many of the wartime buildings at Los Alamos and was involved in developing the architectural and engineering plans for permanent housing as part of the master plan, was awarded the contract to design the Community Center and post office. Born on July 28, 1910, in Sperry, Texas, Willard C. Kruger spent his childhood in Raton, New Mexico, before obtaining an engineering degree at Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College in 1934. After graduation, Kruger worked at the State Planning of New Mexico division between 1934 and 1936 and severed as State Architect from 1936 to 1937. It was during this time that Kruger and partner, Kenneth S. Clark, became active in designing numerous public buildings as either Public Works Administration (PWA) or Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects, including the New Deal Moderne courthouses at Mora (1939) and Las Vegas (1942); the Carrie Tingley Hospital for Crippled Children in Hot Springs (1937); and the Clayton High School (1936)(NRHP 1996). Each of these commissions reflected the regional influence of the Pueblo Revival and Territorial Revival styles. After World War II, Kruger continued to advance the Territorial Revival idiom, but with increased use of modern construction materials and the application of modern design principles. Postwar commissions consisted of large governmental facilities, including technical, medical, residential, recreational buildings at Los Alamos National Laboratories and Sandia National Laboratories. Kruger's work culminated with the design of the New Mexico Capitol Building (1966). Kruger died in 1984 from complications of cancer. Within the canon of his work, the Los Alamos Post Office occupies a unique position as his only post office commission, and a design reflecting the transition between the public architecture typical of the New Deal and the evolving lines of modern architecture.

For the 113,860-square-foot Community Center Kruger selected a cruciform plan, dividing the center in four groups with a large courtyard or plaza in the center girded by covered walkways and portals connecting each section. Parking areas surrounded its perimeter to provide automobile access to each store. The post office and a cafeteria were arranged directly along Central Avenue, as they were expected to derive the majority of their business from walk-in trade.⁶ Freight delivery was designed to be limited to discrete areas to separate it from pedestrians. For its architectural style, Kruger selected the modern Territorial Revival idiom, with low, simple lines

⁴ Craig Martin. *Quads, Shoeboxes, and Sunken Living Rooms: A History of Los Alamos Housing*. Los Alamos: Los Alamos Historical Society, 1999: 22.

⁵ *Ibid*: 23.

⁶ Geoffrey Baker and Bruno Funaro. *Shopping Centers: Design and Operation*. New York: Reinhold Publishing Corp., 1951: 243.

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and each building given a long portal across its façade. The buildings were finished with cream-colored stucco and outlined with Territorial Revival brick coping with selected horizontal lines accented with Texas limestone trim. The design and layout of the Community Center would later influence his plan for the State Capitol Complex, one of the strongest iterations of the modern Territorial Revival style in the state. Featured in a 1951 publication on shopping centers, authors Geoffrey Baker and Bruno Funaro noted the Community Center as an early attempt by planning reformers to “foster a sense of social interaction in community design” and, therefore, was not just a shopping center but a ‘center of all community life.’”⁷

The Community Center opened with much anticipation on October 11, 1948, and was proclaimed in following day’s edition of the *Santa Fe New Mexican* as “America’s most modern community center.” Ten businesses selected by the AEC, including a pastry shop, department store, jewelry and gift store, shoe shop, furniture, variety store, and a Firestone dealer occupied the new storefronts, as well as buildings housing a theater, bowling alley, radio station, and town hall. Although the shopping center civilized the former Army post by offering new goods and services, testimony at a 1948 Senate hearing on AEC expenditures at Los Alamos, found many of the stores at the center had been too costly to construct and selling merchandise at an inflated price.⁸ The hearings, which later led to a congressional “searching investigation” brought to light that the contractor for Group Two overran his original bid for the project by several hundred million dollars. Despite the blatant “waste and extravagance” of government contracts, witnesses at the hearing painted a more optimistic picture of Los Alamos, especially as it came to the AEC’s efforts to improve housing and provide businesses and services to the civilian community.⁹

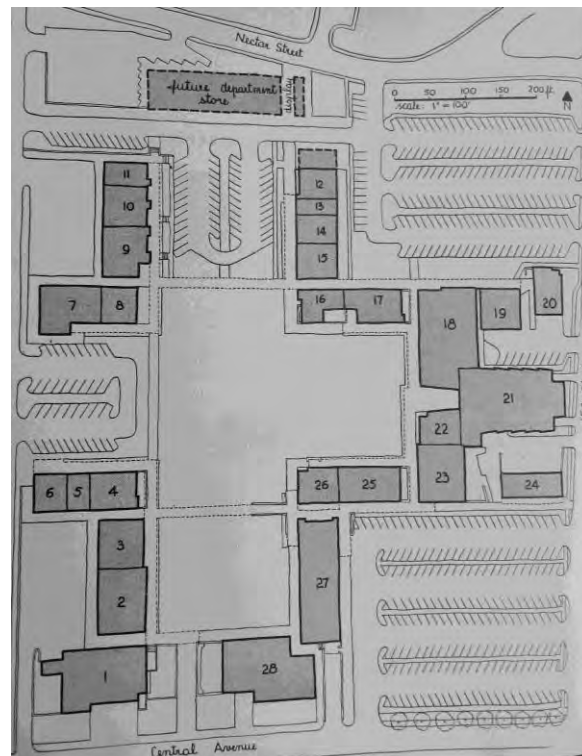


Figure 3. Plan of Community Center with post office in lower right identified as no. 1.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Sanky Trimble. “Better Alamos Seen as Hearings Close.” *Santa Fe New Mexican*. October 16, 1948, Section A: 9.

⁹ Ibid.

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The AEC exerted extraordinary control over the design and construction of the post office, although they never planned to operate the facility. On May 9, 1947, before the building was completed, the War Department turned over control of the post office to the United States Post Office Department.¹⁰

In 1957, the gates to Los Alamos opened permanently and the town continued to evolve from a military laboratory to a civilian and scientific community. Between 1947 and 1962, the Los Alamos Post Office served as the main postal facility for Los Alamos and the adjacent community of White Rock. In 1963, a contract station for mail handling opened in White Rock, but closed eight months later after the main post was improved for additional handling in 1963. Over the years, the Community Center continued to operate as a retail center, but lost much of its business as shoppers began to patronize a new shopping center on Trinity Avenue to the southwest or drove to nearby Espanola and Santa Fe. In recent years, the owners of the Community Center, now called Central Park Square, have attempted to update the shopping center's appearance, covering the original Territorial Revival details with new stucco and adding a green metal roof. The only building of the former Community Center to retain its original design and use is the post office.

Following changes to the exterior appearance of the Community Center and rumors that the post office was to be decommissioned, the community, led by the Los Alamos Historical Society, generated interest in preserving the building and keeping it functioning as a downtown post office. The Los Alamos Post Office, sponsored by the Los Alamos Historical Society, was listed in the New Mexico State Register of Cultural Properties on October 10, 2003. The citizens of Los Alamos consider the building a local landmark and view National Register listing as a means of further recognizing its historic and ongoing significance to Los Alamos.



Figure 4. Photograph of Construction of Post Office, ca. 1948

¹⁰ "Site Goes on Mailing Map with Postal Control Shift," *The Los Alamos Times*, May 9, 1947.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office (SR #1870)
- Other State agency
- Federal agency (USPS)
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.39 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

Latitude/Longitude References

(Carry Lat/Long coordinates six decimal places to the right)

<u>A</u>	<u>35.881693</u>	<u>-106.301024</u>	<u>B</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude
<u>C</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>D</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The National Register boundary is indicated by a heavy black line on the attached map, which is drawn to scale. The boundary includes the remaining parcel historically associated with the associated with the Los Alamos post office.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property includes the Los Alamos post office parcel based on the legal description above that is owned and operated by the U.S. Postal Service.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John W. Murphey, Architectural Historian

organization Los Alamos Historical Society date April 2003

street & number 845 Rim Road telephone N/A

city or town Los Alamos state NM zip code 87544

e-mail N/A

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Steven Moffson / Historian and State and National Register Coordinator

organization Historic Preservation Division

date April 30, 2014

street & number 407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236

telephone 505-476-0444

city or town Santa Fe

state NM

zip code 87501

e-mail steven.moffson@state.nm.us

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

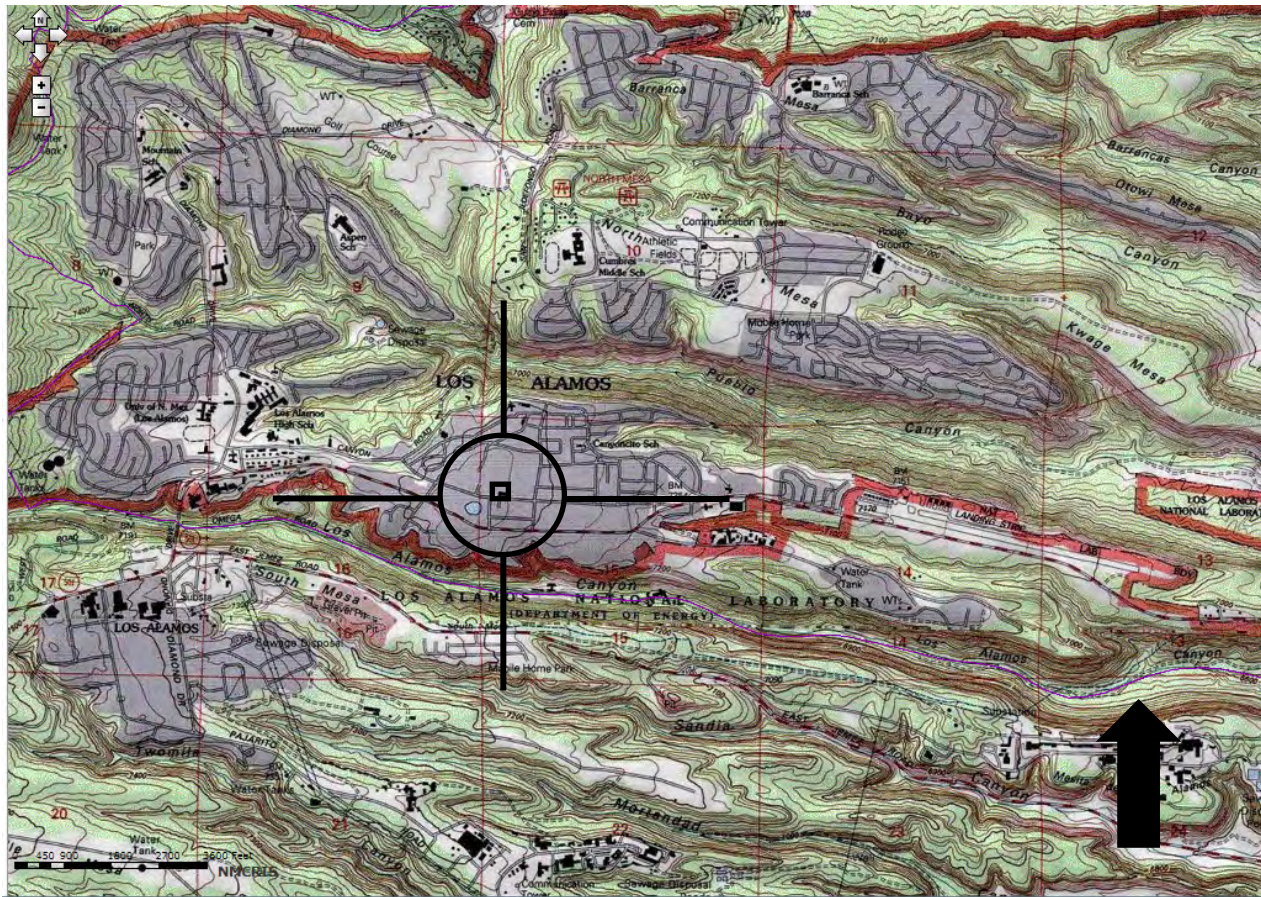
Name of Property

County and State

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

See recent changes to mapping requirements posted on the National Register website.



United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

199 Central Park Square, Los Alamos, Los Alamos County, New Mexico

Guaje Mountain, NM USGS Quadrangle, NAD 83

Latitude: 35.881693; Longitude: -106.301024

Scale: 1 inch = 3,600 feet

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State



United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

199 Central Park Square, Los Alamos, New Mexico

National Register boundary 

Approximate scale: 1 inch = 75 feet



(Map based on Los Alamos County Tax Assessor map)

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 6 megapixels measuring 3000x2000 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.
See recent changes to photographic requirements posted on the National Register website.

Name of Property: United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

City or Vicinity: Los Alamos

County: Los Alamos

State: New Mexico

Photographer(s): Harvey Kaplan

Date Photographed: March 28, 2014

Description of photograph(s) and number: 13

1 of 13: Main façade, photographer facing northeast.

2 of 13: Main façade and plaza, photographer facing northeast.

3 of 13: Main façade, photographer facing northwest.

4 of 13: Main entrance, photographer facing north.

5 of 13: Main entrance, detail of thunderbird, photographer facing north.

6 of 13: Main entrance, detail of thunderbird, photographer facing north.

7 of 13: Planting area with Community Center in background, photographer facing north.

8 of 13: East and rear views with enclosed porch, photographer facing west.

9 of 13: Rear view with loading dock, photographer facing south.

10 of 13: West side with loading dock and nonhistoric roof awning, photographer facing northeast.

11 of 13: Interior, lobby with entrance, photographer facing southwest.

12 of 13: Interior, lobby with entrance and thunderbirds, photographer facing southwest.

13 of 13: Interior, lobby, photographer facing east.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

Property Owner:

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

name United States Postal Service (Daniel Delahaye, FPO)
street & number 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 6670 telephone 202-268-2782
city or town Washington state DC zip code 20260

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

Photographs



Photo 1 of 13: Main façade, photographer facing northeast.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State



Photo 2 of 13: Main façade and plaza, photographer facing northeast.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State



Photo 3 of 13: Main façade, photographer facing northwest.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State



Photo 4 of 13: Main entrance, photographer facing north.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State



Photo 5 of 13: Main entrance, detail of thunderbird, photographer facing north.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State



Photo 6 of 13: Main entrance, detail of thunderbird, photographer facing north.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State



Photo: 7 of 13: Planting area with Community Center in background, photographer facing north.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State



Photo: 8 of 13: East and rear views with enclosed porch, photographer facing west.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State



Photo: 9 of 13: Rear view with loading dock, photographer facing south.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State



Photo: 10 of 13: West side with loading dock and nonhistoric roof awning, photographer facing northeast.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

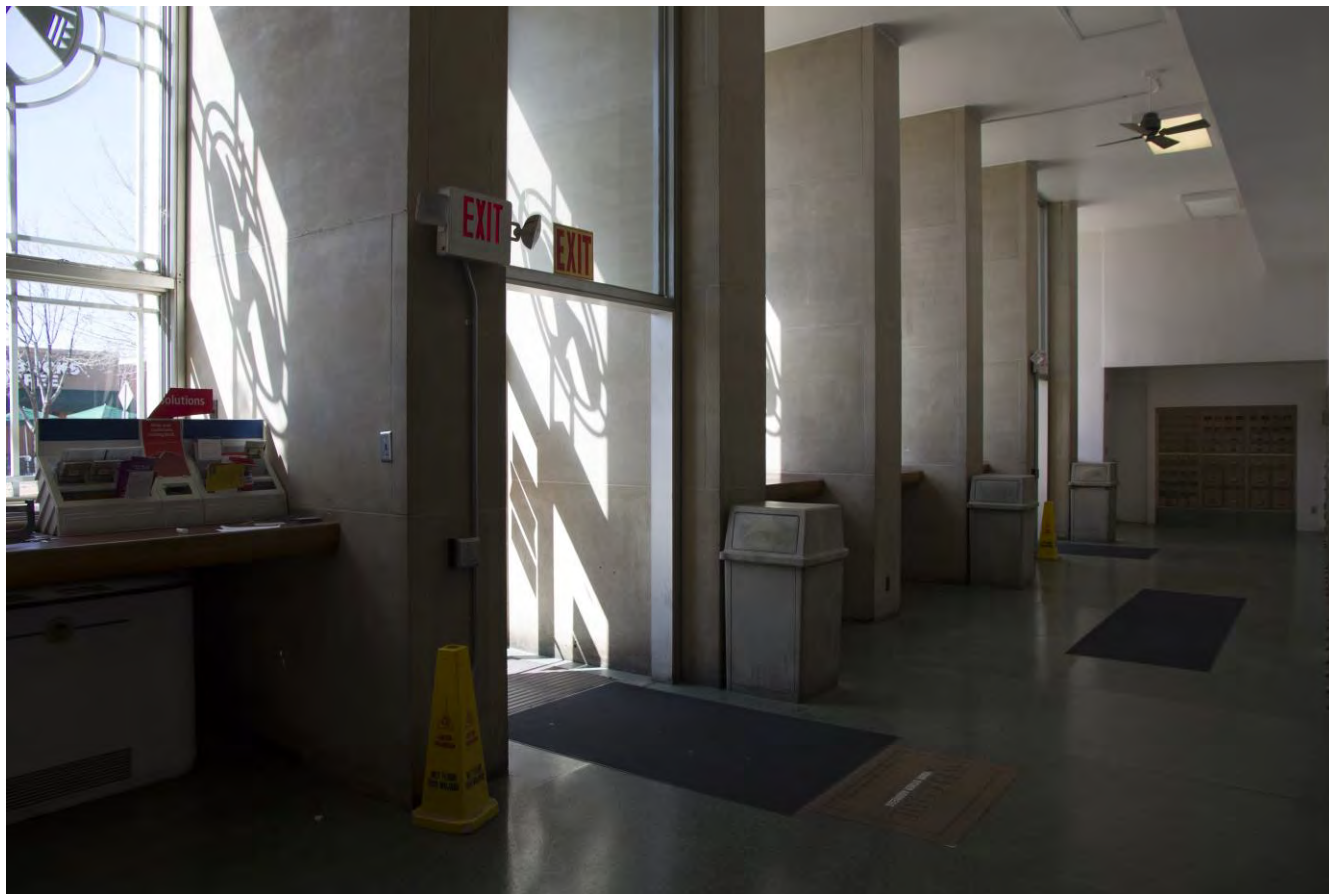


Photo: 11 of 13: Interior, lobby with entrance, photographer facing southwest.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State



Photo: 12 of 13: Interior, lobby with entrance and cast thunderbirds, photographer facing southwest.

United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

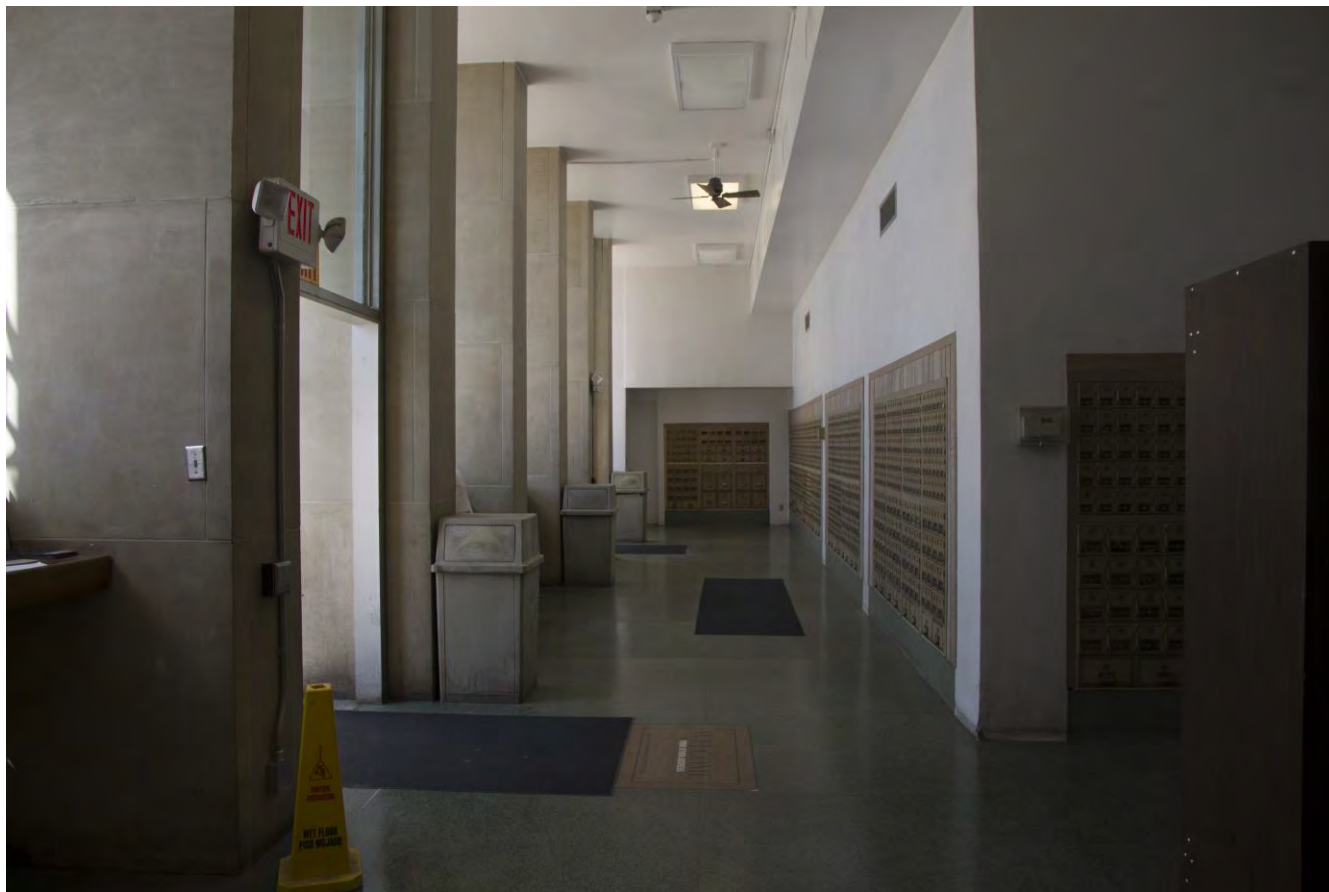


Photo: 13 of 13: Interior, lobby, photographer facing east.



LOS ALAMOS
NEW MEXICO
87514

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

LOS ALAMOS
NEW MEXICO

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE





LOS ALAMOS
NEW MEXICO
87544

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

Welcome



UNITED STATES POST OFFICE



TATES POS









199 U S POST OFFICE





5 MPH
No U-Turns
No Right Turns



NO PARKING
EXCEPT FOR
MAIL DELIVERY





EXIT

EXIT

olutions

CAUTION
WET FLOOR
WET FLOOR
WET FLOOR

WALK HERE
SECURITY FIELD UNIT



EXIT

EXIT





EXIT

CAUTION
PRECAUCION
WET FLOOR
PISO MOJADO

SECURITY TEST BANK

National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY United States Post Office--Los Alamos, New Mexico
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW MEXICO, Los Alamos

DATE RECEIVED: 6/19/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/07/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/22/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/04/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000493

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 8-3-15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Susana Martinez
Governor

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

BATAAN MEMORIAL BUILDING
407 GALISTEO STREET, SUITE 236
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
PHONE (505) 827-6320 FAX (505) 827-6338

July 2, 2014

Mr. Daniel B. Delahaye
United States Postal Service
Federal Preservation Officer
475 L'Enfant Plaza W, SW Room 6670
Washington, DC 20260-1862

RE: United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico, Los Alamos County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Delahaye:

We are pleased to present to you the National Register Registration Form for the United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico. On June 13, 2014, the New Mexico Cultural Properties Review affirmed its National Register eligibility and recommended forwarding it to Federal Preservation Officer (FPO) of the United States Post Office (USPS) for review.

In 2003, the Los Alamos post office was listed the State Register of Cultural Properties and the nomination was then forwarded to the FPO of the USPS. The FPO expressed concerns about the boundary and the date of construction and, as a result, the nomination was not forwarded to the Keeper.

Earlier this year, the Fuller Lodge/Historic Districts Advisory Board and the Los Alamos Historical Society asked my office to renew efforts to list the Los Alamos post office in the National Register. We have revised the nomination to answer the questions that were raised by the FPO. We provided a more precise boundary map based on maps provided by the Los Alamos County Tax Assessor and we revised our boundary description to use the specific language requested by the FPO so it is clear that we are only nominating property owned by the USPS.

Secondly, we have demonstrated that the post office was built in 1947-1948. The FPO had indicated that because it first appears in USPS real property records in 1963 that it must have been built in that year. Historic newspaper accounts make it clear that it was built by the Atomic Energy Commission, but owned by the War Department. Before the post office was completed in 1948, the War Department turned over operations to the United States Postal Service. The USPS most likely acquired the building in 1963, when it appears in USPS real estate records.

Please review the enclosed nomination. If you believe it meets the National Register Criteria and is ready for listing in the National Register, I can forward you the cover sheet, signed by the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer, and the discs required by the National Park Service for digital submissions. If you would like to proceed in another manner, please let me know.

Also, the post master was formally notified and does not object to listing the post office. The Los Alamos community will be very pleased to have their post office listed in the National Register so thank you for your consideration.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 505-476-0444 or steven.moffson@state.nm.us.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steven Moffson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steven Moffson
State and National Register Coordinator

(FPO)

- DeLahaye to SM
on phone;

(Mofflem)

~~8/14/14~~

8.12.14

DeLahaye is reviewing nom
with his peers + will
call me with comments.
(no timetable established.)

- Deed of Transfer -

- Cornerstone in building -

- Map - 1947 - 1963

Moody, Terry, DCA

From: Moody, Terry, DCA
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 9:02 AM *check link,*
To: 'Linda G Goforth'
Cc: Mark Rayburn (mark@rayburndesign.com); Biella, Jan, DCA; Pappas, Jeff, DCA
Subject: RE: Status of the Los Alamos Post Office NR nomination

Hello Linda,

Thank you for your note. I understand your frustration. The Los Alamos Post Office was listed on the State Register of Cultural Properties in October 2003 and the nomination forwarded to the U.S. Postal Service Federal Preservation Officer (FPO) for certification in 2004 and was stalled due to the date of construction of 1963 in their records. Without your inquiry earlier this year and my personal contact with the FPO, we would have not known that the date of construction was what was holding up the certification. In order to list this property to the Register the federal property owner must sign the nomination certifying its eligibility for listing. I will follow-up with Mr. Wordekemper today.

I sincerely regret that this investigation to verify construction dates has taken so long. I hope to get back with you next week on what the next step on HPD's part should be in forwarding this nomination to the National Register. This may require resubmitting a complete nomination package, with current photographs.

Best regards,

Terry
 Terry Moody
 State and National Register Coordinator
 NM Historic Preservation Division
 407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
 Santa Fe, NM 87501
Terry.Moody@state.nm.us
 (505) 476-0444 Voice
 (505) 827-6320 General Information
 (505) 827-6338 Fax

From: Linda G Goforth [mailto:goforthjl@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 12:34 PM
To: Moody, Terry, DCA
Cc: Mark Rayburn (mark@rayburndesign.com)
Subject: Re: Status of the Los Alamos Post Office NR nomination

Hello Terry,

It is with great frustration that I read the amount of detail that is required to proclaim this building its due. It was built at the order of the United States Government which also owns the US Postal Service. The window of its importance is undo reticence on the part of John. No wonder he would not return my calls. This Los Alamos Post Office is still of great relevance in and beyond Los Alamos. If the lab and town did not use it we would not be pushing for its preservation. If the community and state cultural and historical revue had not approved it, we would not know that actually, it is supposed to be on the state of NM registry. The people here love this post office, and constantly complain that he clock is missing. In addition the lab is misunderstood far and near.

and its population of highly generous people are of importance diplomatically in world science while personal friendships are built around the world. The post office here is the site of many commemorative events to individuals.

While the correct information is being run down by the various organizations also owned by the US Government, we can legally have it approved for a national registry entry by our national representatives from NM. The US Postal Service is not the builder, nor the supporter if it does not own the fact that, if it was gone along with the community, Santa Fe would lose 30-35% of its revenue. If it is sold or torn down, it is the last of the era it was built in, and the best example of that era. If it did not exist, much of the worlds most important work would move into the cities, and across the oceans. It is our place on the map.

I have every confidence that you are sincere in helping us, and perhaps a copy of this letter could float to some other people.

Very sympathetically,

Linda Goforth
goforthjl@hotmail.com
845 Rim Rd.
Los Alamos, NM 87544

On Jun 15, 2012, at 10:29 AM, Moody, Terry, DCA wrote:

Hello Linda and Mark,

Mark, I received your phone message when I returned to the office on Wednesday. Sorry it has taken me a while to get back with you.

Below is an update on researching the date the U.S. Post Office took possession of the Los Alamos Post Office (nomination indicates it was built in 1947 by the AEC, but U.S. Post Office real property records indicate that it did not come into their possession until 1963).

I contacted (April 18/19) Mr. Dallan C Wordekemper, CCIM, Real Estate Specialist/Federal Preservation Officer (U.S. Postal Service), Washington, DC. Documents I sent to him are attached. He said that the real property records indicate that it came into possession by the U.S. Postal Service in 1963 (which in 2004 when the nomination was prepared the building would not have been 50 years old and would not have been eligible for listing). Investigation was needed to verify construction date by AEC and date U.S. Post Office took possession before the FPO could certify the nomination for listing. I began to make inquiries as follows:

On April 23, I contacted Ellen D. McGehee, Historic Buildings Manager, Resources Management Team, Environmental Stewardship Group (ENV-ES), MS K404, Los Alamos National Laboratory
She checked the building database and did not find anything on the Post Office. She recommended I contact (May 3 & 4) Alan Carr, Laboratory Historian, Los Alamos National Laboratory

Who then sent me to Philippa Griego, National Nuclear Security Administration Archive, Los Alamos National Library. I contacted her (May 4) and she was going to do some research, but I have not had any further communication. I just sent a follow-up e-mail.

I also contacted (April 25) US Nuclear Regulatory Commission Public Document Room, and received a message from Karen, Librarian
She checked with the NRC Historian. He explained that the NRC would not have any information, but recommended that I contact the Department of Energy because Los Alamos is currently their facility. They also recommended contacting the Los Alamos Lab. I have contacted both. He also suggested that I contact the National Postal Museum in Washington, DC, which I recently did (June 15) and am waiting for a reply.

I just sent this update on the research I have completed to Mr. Wordekemper and asked if he had had any luck in researching their archive. I'll let you know what I hear back.

Best regards,

Terry
Terry Moody
State and National Register Coordinator
NM Historic Preservation Division
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Terry.Moody@state.nm.us
(505) 476-0444 Voice
(505) 827-6320 General Information
(505) 827-6338 Fax

From: Moody, Terry, DCA
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2012 10:18 AM
To: 'Linda Goforth'
Subject: RE: Status of the Los Alamos Post Office NR nomination

Hello Linda,

Thanks for your note. Still searching for ownership status information. I have been with LANL and they have sent me to someone in the Denver archives I believe. I'll let you know what I learn.

Best,

Terry
Terry Moody
State and National Register Coordinator
NM Historic Preservation Division
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Terry.Moody@state.nm.us
(505) 476-0444 Voice
(505) 827-6320 General Information
(505) 827-6338 Fax

From: Linda Goforth [<mailto:goforthjl@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 5:38 PM
To: Moody, Terry, DCA
Subject: RE: Status of the Los Alamos Post Office NR nomination

SR 1870

Moody, Terry, DCA

From: Moody, Terry, DCA
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2012 10:37 AM
To: dallan.c.wordekemper@usps.gov
Subject: FW: Status of the Los Alamos Post Office NR nomination

Hello Mr. Wordekemper,

Thank you for following-up so quickly regarding my e-mails, faxes, and phone call. I do appreciate the time you took from your complex and busy schedule to discuss this nomination. The confusion regarding dates for the period of significance in the nomination and the postal service property record date of 1963 as the date of service explains how the nomination got stalled, relating to the 50 year of age rule for listing to the National Register.

I have explained all this in an e-mail (below) to the contact from the Los Alamos Historical Society. We'll see what information we may be able to recover that will explain the title of ownership from the Atomic Energy Commission to the U.S. Postal Service. I'll let you know what turns up.

If you do ever happen to get out this way, I'd be happy to arrange a visit to Los Alamos, so you can see this historic property first hand.

Best regards,

Terry
Terry Moody
State and National Register Coordinator
NM Historic Preservation Division
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Terry.Moody@state.nm.us
(505) 476-0444 Voice
(505) 827-6320 General Information
(505) 827-6338 Fax

From: Moody, Terry, DCA
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2012 10:24 AM
To: 'Linda Goforth'; 'Mark Rayburn'
Subject: Status of the Los Alamos Post Office NR nomination

Hello Linda,

I just faxed the nomination and associated letters to the U.S. Postal Service/Ms. Norwood (dates: 2003/2004) to Mr. Dallan C. Wordekemper, the Federal Preservation Officer. I also left a phone message. Mr. Wordekemper called me back and I just got off the phone with him. We had a long conversation. A couple of things we need to check into before the nomination can be approved by the Postal Service for submission to the National Park Service for consideration of listing to the National Register of Historic Places.

The real property records in Mr. Wordekemper's office indicate that the Los Alamos Post Office did not go into service until 1963—thus he thought the building was constructed at that time. If that were true, the building would be less than fifty years of age—thus not eligible for listing to the National Register. However, we read through sections of the nomination together and see the period of significance is from 1947 – 1954 (which in 2004 would have been the 50 year age, and eligible for listing). Consequently, there is a bit of confusion because of the conflicting dates, and possibly why the original 2004 nomination was not approved by the Postal Service when first submitted in 2004. That and the fact

that Ms. Norwood, who was the Federal Preservation Officer received this submission, and there was a transition of this position to Mr. Wordekemper.

What needs to be researched is why the U.S. Postal Service only has 1963 as the date when they acquired the property. The nomination discusses that this post office was in operation from 1947 to 1962 as the main postal facility of Los Alamos. This is somewhat explained in the second full paragraph starting with "In 1957" of Section 8, page 12, of the nomination but needs further elaboration. It appears that the main post office was closed for improvements for about eight months between 1962 and 1963, when a contract station for mail handling was opened in White Rock. When improvements were completed in 1963 the main post office reopened. It looks as though the Atomic Energy Commission must have had ownership beginning in 1947 until the U.S. Post Office actually acquired the building in 1963. However, this will need to be verified.

Mr. Wordekemper will be checking the Post Office records/archives, which may take a bit of time. He is a staff of one for the whole nation. I'll try to contact the architectural historian at the Los Alamos Laboratory to see if they have any records that may be helpful.

Needless-to-say, it may take a little more time to get approval to forward the nomination, but I am confident that if we can get all the documentation together it will happen. If you would like to meet to discuss further in early May, I'll be happy to meet with you.

Best regards,

Terry
Terry Moody
State and National Register Coordinator
NM Historic Preservation Division
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Terry.Moody@state.nm.us
(505) 476-0444 Voice
(505) 827-6320 General Information
(505) 827-6338 Fax

From: Linda Goforth [<mailto:goforthjl@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 12:13 PM
To: Moody, Terry, DCA; Mark Rayburn
Subject: meeting

From:
Linda Goforth
subject: Los Alamos Post Office introduction to committee member
Chairing the committee for renomination of the LAPO for the National Register/Mark Rayburn
4-12-2012

To: Terry Moody, Director of Cultural and Historical Affairs for NM

Dear Ms. Moody:

I am contacting you for the purpose of introducing you to Mark Rayburn, and showing him where your state offices are, as well as discussing what you may need from us to assist in the progress of renomination of our Los Alamos Post Office. He will be responsible for collecting letters of support, replacing or adding to information that needs updating, and anything else you ask for that the community itself can give. He will need to know who in the Postal Service we need to speak with, unless you have a different instruction and process.

Please let us know when you can meet with us.

New Mexico Historic Preservation Division

Bataan Memorial Building
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501
505-827-6320 Phone
(505) 827-6338 Fax

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: April 19, 2012
PAGE 1 OF 23 Part 1 of 2

TO: Mr. Dallan C. Wordekemper, CCIM
Federal Preservation Officer
Real Estate Specialist
United States Postal Service
475 l'Enfant Plaza, SW
Suite 6670
Washington, DC 20260-1862
Phone: 202-268-5039
Fax: 202-268-6305
E-mail: dallan.c.wordekemper@usps.gov

FROM: Terry Moody
State and National Register Coordinator
NM Historic Preservation Division
Terry.Moody@state.nm.us
(505) 476-0444 Voice
(505) 827-6320 General Information
(505) 827-6338 Fax

COMMENTS: RE: Los Alamos United States Post Office National Register of Historic Places
Nomination (2004 submission to Ms. Norwood)

Mr. Wordekemper,
Please find a fax of the information I e-mailed to you on February 29 and April 18. I have
attached correspondence between our office and Ms. Norwood in 2003/2004 regarding the 2004
nomination submission. Our office never received approval (U.S. Postal Service FPO signature
certification) by your office that will enable us to forward the nomination to the NPS for review
for listing. In this fax is the nomination, minus photographs, which I will send in another fax, as I
tried to fax all of this yesterday, but the fax failed.

I realize you must be a very busy man, but hope you have a few minutes to review, or could pass
this on to one of your staff to review. Please let me know how we need to proceed to get approval
by your office to forward the nomination to the NPS.

Best regards,

Terry A. Moody

Moody, Terry, DCA

From: Moody, Terry, DCA
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 2:42 PM
To: 'Linda Goforth'; Mark Rayburn
Subject: RE: meeting

Hello Linda,

I apologize for not getting back with you sooner. I have not hear back from the U.S. Postal Service Federal Preservation Officer, and just sent a follow-up e-mail. I also sent the information via fax. This is the same person who never responded to John Murphey's (former HPD Register Coordinator) inquiries. A property cannot be listed to the National Register without owner consent. Let's see if we hear anything back in the next week or two. If not, I'll start calling.

When the time comes to submit the nomination, we may need current photographs. Do you have a draft of the original nomination with photographs?

Best regards,

Terry
Terry Moody
State and National Register Coordinator
NM Historic Preservation Division
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Terry.Moody@state.nm.us
(505) 476-0444 Voice
(505) 827-6320 General Information
(505) 827-6338 Fax

From: Linda Goforth [<mailto:goforthjl@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 12:13 PM
To: Moody, Terry, DCA; Mark Rayburn
Subject: meeting

From:
Linda Goforth
subject: Los Alamos Post Office introduction to committee member
Chairing the committee for renomination of the LAPO for the National Register/Mark Rayburn
4-12-2012

To: Terry Moody, Director of Cultural and Historical Affairs for NM

Dear Ms. Moody:

I am contacting you for the purpose of introducing you to Mark Rayburn, and showing him where your state offices are, as well as discussing what you may need from us to assist in the progress of renomination of our Los Alamos Post Office. He will be responsible for collecting letters of support, replacing or adding to information that needs updating, and anything else you ask for that the community itself can give. He will need to know who in the Postal Service we need to speak with, unless you have a different instruction and process.

Please let us know when you can meet with us.

Regards and thanks for your time and efforts.

SR 1870

Moody, Terry, DCA

From: Wordekemper, Dallan C - Arlington, VA <dallan.c.wordekemper@usps.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2012 11:22 AM
To: Moody, Terry, DCA
Subject: RE: National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Los Alamos U.S. Post Office

Terry,

It was nice talking to you this morning. As I was saying, my record in the system shows this building built in 1963. Maybe we could get a better idea here of what has occurred.

Dallan

Dallan C Wordekemper, CCIM
Real Estate Specialist/Federal Preservation Officer
475 L'Enfant Plz SW, Ste 6670
Washington DC 20260-1862
(202) 268-5039
Fax (202) 268-6305

From: Moody, Terry, DCA [<mailto:Terry.Moody@state.nm.us>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 4:01 PM
To: Wordekemper, Dallan C - Arlington, VA
Subject: National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Los Alamos U.S. Post Office

Hello Mr. Wordekemper,

I am following up on an e-mail I sent you in February regarding the National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Los Alamos U.S. Post Office. Please see correspondence below. I am also faxing this inquiry. Please let me know what we need to submit for approval to list this property to the National Register.

Best regards,

Terry Moody
State and National Register Coordinator
NM Historic Preservation Division
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Terry.Moody@state.nm.us
(505) 476-0444 Voice
(505) 827-6320 General Information
(505) 827-6338 Fax

From: Moody, Terry, DCA
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 4:46 PM
To: 'dallan.c.wordekemper@usps.gov'
Subject: Los Alamos U.S. Post Office

Hello Mr. Wordekemper,

I am hoping you may be able to provide me with the status of a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Los Alamos U.S. Post Office, located at 1808 Central Avenue (current address: 199 Central Park Sq), Los Alamos, New

Mexico submitted to your office for review in 2004. Our files have documentation that the National Register nomination was submitted with a letter (24 Jun 2004) to Tina Norwood, Facilities Headquarters/Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. Postal Service for review and consideration to submit to the Keeper of the Register for listing. A letter of support from the Los Alamos County Administrator was sent to Ms. Norwood in April 2005 and from Los Alamos County Fuller Lodge/Historic District Advisory Board December 16, 2004. Please see the attached nomination and correspondence.

We have had a recent inquiry from the Los Alamos Historic District Review Board as they had sponsored the nomination when it was written. Any information about the status of the nomination is greatly appreciated. If we need to resubmit a request for consideration to forward the nomination to the Keeper of the Register for review and potential listing, please let me know. Thank you much for your time to respond to this request, or for forwarding to the person it might be best for me to communicate with.

Respectfully yours,

Terry Moody
State and National Register Coordinator
NM Historic Preservation Division
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Terry.Moody@state.nm.us
(505) 476-0444 Voice
(505) 827-6320 General Information
(505) 827-6338 Fax

Murphey, John, DCA

From: Murphey, John, DCA **Sent:** Tue 8/2/2005 9:36 AM
To: dallan.c.wordekemper@usps.gov
Cc: senator_bingaman@bingaman.senate.gov; laadministrator@lac.losalamos.nm.us;
historicalsociety@losalamos.com; bob-heather@att.net
Subject: Los Alamos Post Office, Los Alamos County, New Mexico
Attachments:

Dear Mr. Wordekemper:

I am following up on the submittal of a National Register nomination for the Los Alamos Post Office, Los Alamos, New Mexico, sent to Ms. Tina Norwood on June 24, 2004.

Our constituents continue to ask about the status of the nomination.

At your convenience, please contact me about the disposition of the National Register nomination for the Los Alamos Post Office.

Thank you.

John W. Murphey
Architectural Historian
State and National Register Coordinator
New Mexico Historic Preservation Division (NMSHPO)
Department of Cultural Affairs
228 East Palace Avenue, Room 320
Santa Fe, NM 87501
505-827-3990 (office)
505-827-6338 (fax)
<http://www.nmhistoricpreservation.org>

TOM UDALL

30 DISTRICT, NEW MEXICO

**CO-VICE CHAIR
CONGRESSIONAL
NATIVE AMERICAN CAUCUS**1414 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-6100811 SAINT MICHAEL DRIVE
SUITE 104
SANTA FE, NM 87505
(505) 884-8950www.tomudall.house.gov**Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3103**

COMMITTEES

RESOURCES**RANNING** MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
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PUBLIC LANDS**SMALL BUSINESS**SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL ENTERPRISES,
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE,
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DISABILITY ASSISTANCE AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS

August 22, 2005

Ms. Fran P. Mainella
Director
National Park Service
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Director Mainella:

I am writing to respectfully urge you to approve the recent submission from the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs Historic Preservation Division to include the Los Alamos Post Office, located in Los Alamos, New Mexico, on the National Register of Historic Places. I have been informed that this application was submitted several months ago, but attempts to determine its current status by members of my staff, as well as staff members of the Cultural Affairs Historic Preservation Division have been disregarded.

The Los Alamos Post Office, designed by W.C. Kruger and Associates, is the first permanent post office built in Los Alamos. Constructed as part of a multi-million dollar Community Center funded by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), the solidly built building signaled the AEC's ambitions of developing Los Alamos into a permanent scientific and civilian city. Distinguished by its interesting combination of massing and surface textures and distinctive ornamental thunderbird grilles, the Los Alamos Post Office is significant in W.C. Kruger's career as a transitional work between his New Deal commissions and his evolving interest in modern architecture that would culminate in his design for the 1960s New Mexico State Capitol Complex. Despite the great changes that have affected the character of the Community Center, the post office remains similar in appearance to its original design.

It is my understanding that, reflecting the federal government's role in community development at Los Alamos, the post office is eligible at the local level of significance under Criterion A, Community Planning and Development. Additionally, it is also my understanding that as a transitional work of W.C. Kruger, the post office is additionally eligible under Criterion C, Architecture at the local level of significance.

With these considerations in mind, I again respectfully urge the approval of the Los Alamos Post Office's inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Thank

BRANCH OFFICES

CLOVIS-CARVER PUBLIC LIBRARY
701 NORTH MAIN STREET
CLOVIS, NM 88101
(505) 783-7818800 MUNICIPAL DRIVE
FARMINGTON, NM 87401
(505) 324-1008LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, ROOM 108
100 LUNA DRIVE
LAS VEGAS, NM 87701
P.O. BOX 928
(505) 454-4080110 WEST AZTEC
SUITE 102
GALLUP, NM 87301
(505) 883-05823900 SOUTHERN BOULEVARD, SE
ROOM 105-A
BIG RANCH, NM 87124
(505) 894-0435

you for your attention to my request. If you have additional questions please contact me or Mike Collins of my staff at (202) 225-6190.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Udall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tom" and last name "Udall" clearly legible.

Tom Udall
Member of Congress

TU/mc

1870

Murphey, John, DCA

From: Murphey, John, DCA **Sent:** Mon 8/22/2005 2:10 PM
To: Collins, Mike
Cc:
Subject: RE: Los Alamos Post Office
Attachments:

Michael-

Thank you for dogging Wordekamp. I too have sent him e-mails and left phone messages in the last several weeks without receiving a reply.

I am enclosing below the statement of significance from the National Register nomination. Let me know if you need any additional information.

“The Los Alamos Post Office, designed by W.C. Kruger and Associates, is the first permanent post office built in Los Alamos. Constructed as part of a multi-million dollar Community Center funded by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), the solidly built building signaled the AEC’s ambitions of developing Los Alamos into a permanent scientific and civilian city. Distinguished by its interesting combination of massing and surface textures and distinctive ornamental thunderbird grilles, the Los Alamos Post Office is significant in W.C. Kruger’s career as a transitional work between his New Deal commissions and his evolving interest in modern architecture that would culminate in his design for the 1960s New Mexico State Capitol Complex. Despite the great changes that have affected the character of the Community Center, the post office remains similar in appearance to its original design. Reflecting the federal government’s role in community development at Los Alamos, the post office is eligible at the local level of significance under Criterion A, Community Planning and Development. As a transitional work of W.C. Kruger, the post office is additionally eligible under Criterion C, Architecture at the local level of significance.”

John W. Murphey
 Architectural Historian
 State and National Register Coordinator
 New Mexico Historic Preservation Division (NMSHPO)
 Department of Cultural Affairs
 228 East Palace Avenue, Room 320
 Santa Fe, NM 87501
 505-827-3990 (office)
 505-827-6338 (fax)
<http://www.nmhistoricpreservation.org>

From: Collins, Mike [mailto:Mike.Collins@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Mon 8/22/2005 1:33 PM
To: Murphey, John, DCA
Subject: Los Alamos Post Office

Hey John-

We spoke a few weeks ago I believe, and I have put in yet ANOTHER call to Dallen Wordekamp, again to no avail. At this point I am putting together a letter to send from the boss urging Jan Mathews, Associate Director of Cultural Resources Stewardship and Partnership (and I'm told the one under whose jurisdiction this would fall) to approve the application. Only problem is, I need a bit more info about the post office to include in the letter. Do you have a short history of the post office you could send me? Thanks for any info you can provide.
 -Mike

6870

Murphey, John, DCA

From: Collins, Mike [Mike.Collins@mail.house.gov]**Sent:** Mon 8/22/2005 1:33 PM**To:** Murphey, John, DCA**Cc:****Subject:** Los Alamos Post Office**Attachments:**

Hey John-

We spoke a few weeks ago I believe, and I have put in yet ANOTHER call to Dallen Wordekamp, again to no avail. At this point I am putting together a letter to send from the boss urging Jan Mathews, Associate Director of Cultural Resources Stewardship and Partnership (and I'm told the one under whose jurisdiction this would fall) to approve the application. Only problem is, I need a bit more info about the post office to include in the letter. Do you have a short history of the post office you could send me? Thanks for any info you can provide.

-Mike

Michael T. Collins
Legislative Director
Office of Congressman Tom Udall (NM-3)
Phone: (202) 225-6190
Fax: (202) 226-1331



LOS ALAMOS COUNTY

Fuller Lodge/Historic District Advisory Board



Chairman
Heather McClenahan
Vice - Chair
Helen Baran
Board Members
Nancy Bartlit
Ruth Sherman
Melanie Shurter
Robert Wells

December 16, 2004

Congressman Tom Udall
1414 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Rep. Udall,

We are writing in support of the nomination of the Los Alamos Post Office to the National Register of Historic Places

The beautiful stone block building with its unique thunderbird windows has been a central part of our community since it was built in the 1950s. As with many post offices, it has served as part of the core of our downtown, and we believe it deserves recognition.

The New Mexico Historic Preservation Division recommended that the Los Alamos Post Office be nominated for recognition more than a year ago. Since then, the nomination has sat on a desk in Washington. We are dismayed that the process has taken so long when the nomination has had such widespread support in our community and our state.

Our board is a group of citizen volunteers, which makes recommendations on matters of historic interest to the Los Alamos County Council. We have been fully in support of the Post Office's nomination and some of our members have worked toward it for more than four years. We have also sent a letter in support of the nomination to Tina Norwood with the U.S. Postal Service Facilities Headquarters in Arlington.

We appreciate any help you and your office can provide for a quick resolution to this matter.

Sincerely,

Heather McClenahan
Chair, Fuller Lodge/Historic District Advisory Board



LOS ALAMOS COUNTY

P.O. Box 30 Los Alamos, NM 87544 (505) 682-8080 Fax (505) 682-8079
Website: www.lac-nm.us

COUNTY COUNCIL

Council Chair
Frances M. Berling
Council Vice-Chair
Michael G. Wheeler
Councilors
Nona Bowman
Jim Hall
Ken H. Milder
Jim L. West
Michael Wismer

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Max H. Baker

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Peter A. Dwyer



April 22, 2005

Ms. Tina Norwood
Facilities Headquarters/Federal Preservation Office
U.S. Postal Service
4301 Wilson Blvd., Suite 300
Arlington VA 22203

RE: Nomination of Los Alamos Post Office to National Historic Register

Dear Ms. Norwood:

The purpose of this letter is to express my support of the nomination by the State Historic Preservation Office of the Los Alamos, New Mexico Post Office Building to the National Historic Register. I understand that a full history of the building has previously been submitted to your office.

The Post Office building is considered to be the heart of the community today and the center of activity. The building remains the last piece of 50's style architecture in the downtown area and represents the transitioning from Los Alamos as a secret city exemplified as a post office box in Santa Fe, to a real city featuring world renowned scientific research.

I would be happy to respond to any questions that you may have, or refer you to our local Historical Society for more details. Thank you for your attention to this important nomination.

Very truly yours,

Max H. Baker
County Administrator

CC: County Councilors
Senator Pete Domenici
Senator Jeff Bingaman
Representative Tom Udall
John Murphey, State Historic Preservation Office
Hedy Dunn, Los Alamos Historical Society



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

228 EAST PALACE AVENUE
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
(505) 827-6320

BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

June 24, 2004

Tina Norwood
Facilities Headquarters/Federal Preservation Officer
U.S. Postal Service
4301 Wilson Blvd., Ste. 300
Arlington, VA 22203

Re: National Register Nomination for the Los Alamos Post Office

Dear Ms. Norwood:

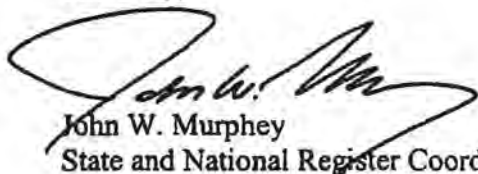
Please find enclosed a revised National Register nomination for the Los Alamos Post Office, Los Alamos, New Mexico. Since our last communication, the New Mexico Cultural Properties Review Committee reviewed the nomination on October 10, 2003 for State and National Register designation. The Committee voted favorably to forward the nomination to the U.S. Postal Service for National Register consideration.

The revised nomination reflects the comments and suggestions of your August 11, 2003 letter. New black-and-white photographs were taken of the building and are submitted with the nomination. The Historic Preservation Division located original plans for the post office, of which some sheets were scanned and embedded in the nomination. At your request, the nomination states more clearly why only the post office is being nominated.

The Los Alamos Historical Society, representing the community of Los Alamos, initiated the nomination. The community considers the building an important local landmark, and views National Register listing as a means of recognizing its historic and ongoing role as Los Alamos' first permanent post office.

We are pleased to have the opportunity to work with you in recognizing the significance of this post office. Please contact me at 505-827-3990 if you have any questions about the nomination. We look forward to seeing the Los Alamos Post Office listed in the National Register.

Sincerely,



John W. Murphey
State and National Register Coordinator

Enclosure: one National Register package



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

228 EAST PALACE AVENUE
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
(505) 827-6320

BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

September 8, 2003

Linda Goforth
845 Rim Road
Los Alamos, NM 87544

RE: Los Alamos Post Office, Los Alamos, Los Alamos County

Dear Ms. Goforth:

We are pleased to inform you that the Los Alamos Post Office will be considered by the New Mexico Cultural Properties Review Committee (CPRC) at their next meeting for listing on the State Register of Cultural Properties (State Register) and the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). This meeting will be held on October 10, 2003 at 1:00 p.m., in the Second Floor Hearing Room at Marian Hall, 224 E. Palace Ave, Santa Fe. You are cordially invited to attend this meeting.

The **State Register** is the official list of historic properties worthy of preservation in New Mexico. Listing in the State Register provides recognition of important prehistoric and historic places, and assists in preserving New Mexico's cultural heritage. Listing in the State Register does not restrict the private use of the property by the owner or the property owner's ability to sell, transfer or develop the property as he/she may consider appropriate. However, listing in the State Register does provide protection against adverse public use (see Section 18-8-7 NMSA 1978). Once a property is listed in the State Register, owners of private properties become eligible for a State income tax credit for approved restoration, rehabilitation or preservation and may request technical advice from the Historic Preservation Division.

The **National Register** is the official Federal list of historic properties worthy of preservation. Listing in the National Register provides recognition of important prehistoric and historic places and assists in preserving our shared heritage. Listing in the National Register does not mean that limitations will be placed on the properties by the Federal government, nor will it attach restrictive covenants to the properties or seek to acquire them. Public visitation rights are not required of owners. Owners of National Register listed properties may be able to obtain Federal historic preservation funding, when funds are available.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 827-3990. Thank you for supporting this nomination.

Sincerely,

John W. Murphey
State and National Register Coordinator



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

228 EAST PALACE AVENUE
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
(505) 827-6320

BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

September 8, 2003

Fred Roybal, Officer in Charge
Los Alamos Post Office
United States Postal Service
1808 Central Avenue
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87549

Re: Los Alamos Post Office, Los Alamos, Los Alamos County

Dear Mr. Roybal:

This letter is to notify you that the Los Alamos Post Office will be considered by the New Mexico Cultural Properties Review Committee (CPRC) at their next meeting for listing on the State Register of Cultural Properties (State Register) and the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). A copy of the nomination is attached for your review and comment. This meeting will be held on October 10, 2003 at 1:00 p.m., in the Second Floor Hearing Room at Marian Hall, 224 E. Palace Ave, Santa Fe. You are cordially invited to attend this meeting.

As per Federal regulation, our office contacted Ms. Tina Borghild Norwood, the Federal Preservation Officer for the United States Postal Service, about the proposed nomination of this facility to the National Register. The Federal Preservation Officer, who is the only person with authority to list a property to the National Register, replied by letter that she was favorable to listing the facility (see attachment). Therefore, this letter serves only as notification of the intent to nominate the post office to the National Register. The final decision to list the building to the National Register will be made by the Federal Preservation Officer.

The post office will also be considered for listing on the State Register, the official list of historic properties worthy of preservation in New Mexico. Although notification is required under State regulations, State historic preservation laws (Sections 18-6-8.1 and 18-8-7 NMSA 1978) do not apply to Federally owned properties listed on the State Register (see text below).

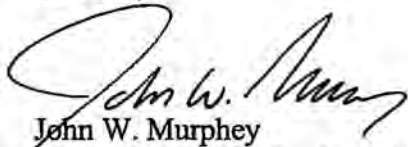
The State Register is the official list of historic properties worthy of preservation in New Mexico. Listing on the State Register provides recognition of important prehistoric and historic places, and assists in preserving New Mexico's rich cultural heritage. Listing on the State Register does not restrict the private use of the property by

Mr. Fred Roybal
September 8, 2003
Page 2

the owner or the property owner's ability to sell, transfer or develop the property as they may consider appropriate. Once listed, the property owner is expected to maintain the historic character of the resource. The Historic Preservation Division and CPRC can provide guidelines and consultation for maintaining the historic character of a listed property. Registered properties can be removed from the State Register if the CPRC believes the property has been altered to such an extent that it can no longer communicate its significance as a State Register resource. Listing in the State Register does provide protection against adverse public use by State agencies or subdivisions of the State. If placed on the State Register, State property owners are required to plan projects in such a way as to assure that registered historic properties are preserved and protected in a manner consistent with State law (Section 18-6-8.1 NMSA 1978). State property owners are also prohibited from expending public funds for the adverse use or destruction of a registered property (Section 18-8-7 NMSA 1978) unless there is no feasible and prudent alternative to such use. These State statuettes do not apply to State Register properties owned by the Federal government.

If you have any questions about the State or National Registers, please contact me at (505) 827-3990. Thank you for supporting this nomination.

Sincerely,



John W. Murphey
State and National Register Coordinator

Enclosure



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

228 EAST PALACE AVENUE
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
(505) 827-6320

BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

September 8, 2003

Mary McNerny, County Administrator
Los Alamos County Municipal Bldg.
2300 Trinity Drive, PO Box 30
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

Re: Los Alamos Post Office, Los Alamos, Los Alamos County

Dear Ms. McNerny:

We are pleased to inform you that the Los Alamos Post Office will be considered by the New Mexico Cultural Properties Review Committee (CPRC) at their next meeting for listing on the State Register of Cultural Properties (State Register) and the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). This meeting will be held on October 10, 2003 at 1:00 p.m., in the Second Floor Hearing Room at Marian Hall, 224 E. Palace Ave, Santa Fe. You are cordially invited to attend this meeting.

The **National Register** is the official Federal list of historic properties worthy of preservation. Listing in the National Register provides recognition of important prehistoric and historic places and assists in preserving our shared heritage. Listing in the National Register does not place limitations on properties by the Federal government, nor will it attach restrictive covenants to the properties or seek to acquire them. Listing of a property does not impose any responsibilities upon the private property owner for maintenance or restoration. A private owner may alter or demolish a National Register site without consultation with the Historic Preservation Division or the National Park Service. However, the result of any such action that compromises the historic character of a site may cause the property to be removed from the register. Listing on the National Register does provide limited protection to listed sites from adverse actions by Federal agencies or agencies using federal funds. Such agencies must request the comments of the Historic Preservation Division before beginning projects affecting historic properties. The purpose of this consultation is not to impede or halt development, but rather to assure that the value of historic properties is given direct consideration in Federal project planning decisions. Public visitation rights are not required of owners of National Register listed properties. Owners of National Register listed properties may be able to obtain Federal historic preservation funding, when funds are available.

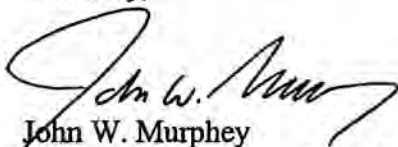
The **State Register** is the official list of historic properties worthy of preservation in New Mexico. Listing on the State Register provides recognition of important prehistoric and historic places, and assists in preserving New Mexico's rich cultural

Ms. Mary McInerney
September 8, 2003
Page 2

heritage. Listing on the State Register does not restrict the private use of the property by the owner or the property owner's ability to sell, transfer or develop the property as they may consider appropriate. Once listed, the property owner is expected to maintain the historic character of the resource. The Historic Preservation Division and Cultural Properties Review Committee (CPRC) can provide guidelines and consultation for maintaining the historic character of a listed property. Registered properties can be removed from the State Register if the CPRC believes the property has been altered to such an extent that it can no longer communicate its significance as a State Register resource. Listing in the State Register does provide protection against adverse public use by State agencies or subdivisions of the state. If placed on the State Register, State owners are required to plan projects in such a way as to assure that registered historic properties are preserved and protected in a manner consistent with State law (Section 18-6-8.1 NMSA 1978). State owners are also prohibited from expending public funds for the adverse use or destruction of a registered property (Section 18-8-7 NMSA 1978) unless there is no feasible and prudent alternative to such use. These State statuettes do not apply to private or Federal owners of registered properties. Public visitation rights are not required of owners of State Register properties. Once listed, owners of private properties become eligible for a state income tax credit for approved restoration, rehabilitation or preservation and may request technical advice from the Historic Preservation Division.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 827-3990. Thank you for supporting this nomination.

Sincerely,



John W. Murphey
State and National Register Coordinator



August 11, 2003

John W. Murphey
State and National Register Coordinator
State of New Mexico
Department of Cultural Affairs and Historic Preservation Division
228 East Palace Avenue
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

RE: National Register Nomination for the Los Alamos Post Office, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Murphey;

Thank you for providing me a copy of the National Register nomination for the Los Alamos Post Office in New Mexico and the opportunity to comment. I fully support the nomination of eligible postal facilities and given our ongoing funding freeze, I appreciate the initiative the Los Alamos Historic Society has taken. Although we consider ourselves a federal agency such that Section 106 implementing regulations apply, our semi-autonomous status makes it challenging for the US Postal Service to fully develop a historic preservation program compared to federal agencies who do receive tax supported funding from Congress. I currently receive no funds to conduct eligibility assessments or nominate postal facilities. I am therefore very appreciate of the active role so many local and state agencies and organizations are taking in recognizing the historic significance of postal facilities-- over a 1000 of which are already listed on the National Register.

I did look up the Los Alamos Post Office in our national database. It lists the "building cost" as \$888,227.00. This is often the cost to construct a new facility. However, since it is also listed as an "existing building," this was likely the acquisition and/or repair and alteration cost (to "postalize" the interior space and docks for mail operations, etc.). The database lists the postal occupation of the facility was on June 1, 1963. I would assume this relates to the fact that this building was part of a larger community center. Which brings me to one question that I believe should be stated or clarified in the package; why is this facility being nominated individually and not the entire community center? Given that the center has given way to the current "collection of independent retail stores and businesses," it may be that they have been altered such that their original architectural features have been significantly altered. The first paragraph ends with an incomplete sentence so maybe this will be addressed in the final version.

Additionally, I believe the statement under "Boundary Justification" (page 10) could be misinterpreted to include land that is beyond the postal facility. I therefore request it be revised to read, "The nominated property includes the Los Alamos Post Office parcel based on the legal description above that is currently owned and operated by the US Postal Service." And lastly, I recommend that the facility be more clearly marked on the topo map and labeled (last page).

I appreciate your consideration of these minor edits and appreciate you forwarding me the finalized package.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tina B. Norwood".

Tina Borghild Norwood
USPS FPO



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

228 EAST PALACE AVENUE
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
(505) 827-6320

BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

July 31, 2003

Tina Norwood
Facilities Headquarters/Federal Preservation Officer
U.S. Postal Service
4301 Wilson Blvd., Ste. 300
Arlington, VA 22203

Re: National Register Nomination for the Los Alamos Post Office

Dear Ms. Norwood:

Please find enclosed a draft copy of a National Register nomination for the Los Alamos Post Office, Los Alamos, New Mexico. As the Federal Preservation Officer for the U.S. Postal Service, we solicit your comments on the nomination and approval for listing the property to the National Register of Historic Places. Pending your comments and letter of concurrence, a final archival paper copy of the nomination will be sent to you for your signature for submittal to the Keeper of the National Register.

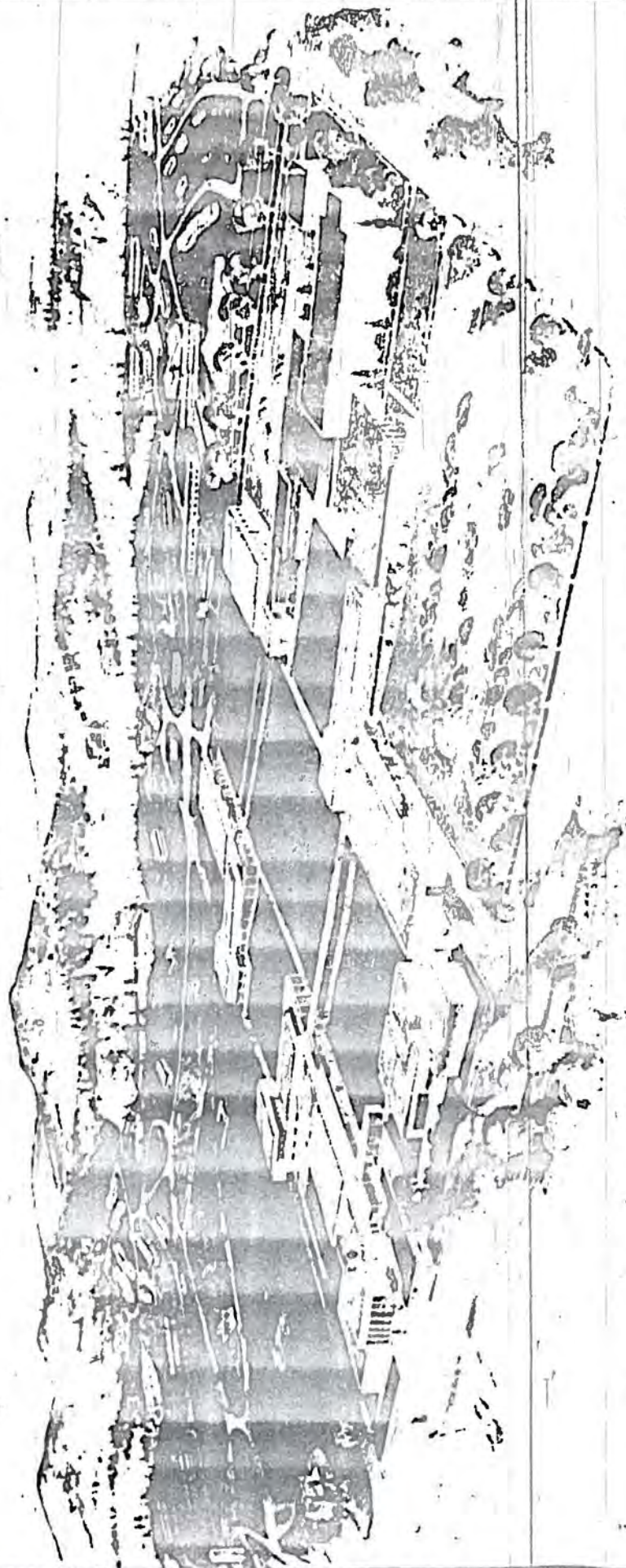
Constructed in 1947 as part of a federally funded, multi-million dollar community center, the Los Alamos Post Office signaled the federal government's intention of developing the former military post into a permanent scientific and civilian community. Distinguished by its interesting combination of massing and surface textures and distinctive ornamental thunderbird grilles, the post office is nominated under National Register criteria C, Architecture and A, Community Planning and Development, at the local level of significance.

The Los Alamos Historical Society, representing the community of Los Alamos, initiated the nomination. The community considers the building an important local landmark, and views register listing as a means of recognizing its historic and ongoing role as Los Alamos' first permanent post office.

We are pleased to have the opportunity to work with you in recognizing the important role the U.S. Postal Service has played in New Mexico. Please contact me at 505-827-3990 if you have any questions about the nomination. We look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,

John W. Murphey
State and National Register Coordinator
Enclosure: draft National Register nomination



Artist's Conception of New Los Alamos Community Center, Today a Sparkling, Functioning Reality

W. C. Kruger, Architect

CONGRATULATIONS LOS ALAMOS!

—It's America's Most Modern

To the residents and to the business organizations of Los Alamos we extend our best wishes and a pledge of friendly, continuous cooperation.



THE NEW POSTOFFICE will stand at the site of the old service club. Designated building 5 of Group II of the Community Center, it will face Central avenue along a 96-foot front. Depth of the structure will be about 80 feet. The stone areas will be of Texas limestone in con-

formity with Group I and the garage and filling station. Construction, which awaits razing of the old service club, is planned to begin early next month. W. C. Kruger Co., architects-engineers, Santa Fe, designed the building.

1/6/27
EC3609

COVERHAULS
and Service
MAC Budget Plan
COMPANY
M.—Phone 2300

ANCE



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PRICE \$3.98 YARD
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\$2.79 yard

Suggestions on Charter Group

The League of Women Voters in the first group on the Hill to offer a formally drafted set of suggestions to the town council for the appointment of a town planning board. Their recommendations, as presented by Mrs. F. M. Williams, Jr., president, and aimed by the league board, follow:

AIR
It is our belief that a town planning committee of seven would be preferable to a larger group. This is a number often chosen by cities appointing charter commissions. It is more easily assembled for a meeting, as you well know, than a larger number. Also, a board of seven might charge itself by calling in experts and technical advisers when the occasion demanded it, without becoming an unwieldy committee.

PROFESSIONAL REPRESENTATION
We do not think it is necessary or desirable to try to include on the planning board an educator, a minister or any other professional merely because they happen to belong to that profession. The board would be advised, if professions are to be represented, law and engineering might be favored. Even these, however, could be advised as specialists.

EMPLOYMENT GROUPS
We hope you will not consider employment groups as a measure for appointment. If it is necessary for any reason, unknown to us, to do so, may we suggest that anyone closely attached to the administration of ABC, such as the board, be considered as liaison members only, and that they attend the meetings of the planning board by invitation.

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP
The council will be faced with the problem of its own representation on the board. We think it might be represented by one of its members as an ex officio member of the board.

RECOMMENDED QUALIFICATIONS
We believe that the planning board should be a citizen board whose qualifications are measured by the objectivity of their thinking, their interest in and contribution to the community, and their understanding of the complexities of the problems of establishing municipal government here. It was

that residence is not a qualification for either interest or ability any more than employment is. We believe that in addition to this, a understanding of the problem, they should have a particular interest in one or more of the parts that make up a town—education, health, recreation, the courts, safety and traffic problems, housing and the like—and writers and responsible officials of the individual in a community. We think qualified women have a contribution to make on such a board and hope they will be represented.

The responsibility of the council in the appointment of the planning board is great, but the responsibility of those who accept appointment is greater. We are confident that the people who will keep in mind the diversity of interests and opinions that make up our population and will formulate a plan best suited to carry out the purpose for which Los Alamos exists.

J.P. FINES PLUMBER \$200 FOR DRIVING MISHAP

Failure to stop at the scene of an accident in which he was involved and lack of a proper license drove J.P. Fines through a total fine of \$200 and costs to William Frederick, plumber, Brown & Olds, Capt. A. B. Martinez, state police, reported yesterday. Frederick was adjudged guilty on both counts by Justice of the Peace A. E. P. Robinson, Santa Fe. Conviction on the first count carries mandatory revocation of driver's license for one year.

Captain Martinez said that Frederick admitted an automobile driven by Dr. L. M. Brooks, Los Alamos, Saturday on state road 80 two miles west of the Otowi bridge.

SOOT BURSTS DAMAGE ITEMS OF 2 MERCHANTS

Cleanup operations on oil stoves in two Hill concessions Friday night had unexpectedly sorry results. At Brooks's furniture store, the uncleaned stove pipe blew up after the oil workers had cleaned the stove. J. R. Moore, manager, said damage to nearby stock had not been estimated as he had no insurance to cover loss by soot. At Hall's shoe store, the bag of the vacuum being used to clean the stove burst, spreading a cloud of soot. An insurance adjustment was made to cover the small amount of damage.

Thomas spoke of the importance of knowing accident facts: how causes as a basis of an adequate job of prevention. He pointed out Smith's interest in the improvement of traffic safety in Los Alamos, outlined various regulations for safe driving. He said government vehicles alone drive 600,000 miles a month in the project.

Holla, chairman of the rally, presented accident facts of the entire atomic energy commission, including the various ABC facilities, the company of Los Alamos, the state police, the state police, pointing out that the tip drive for accident frequency and severity for the site are 50 percent higher than the average for all ABC projects, he said. Los Alamos had lost more than 50,000 man-hours in 1947, involving fatalities and permanent physical disabilities.

According to Holla, accident records of Los Alamos proper and the laboratory do not compare favorably with those of Hanford, Oak Ridge and of industry generally. The fact that the laboratory has had a perfect record for one month—July, 1947—proved, he said, accidents can be prevented.

Holla added that Carroll will be general manager of the ABC in Washington, D. C., as well as industrial management representatives throughout the nation, measure results of safety programs in terms of accident frequency, severity and costs.

Holla, who announced that detailed accident facts will appear later in the Los Alamos Times, closed the rally by emphasizing the part legal factors and contractual obligations play in enforcement. He added, however, that safety education and training overshadow these factors in achieving a truly successful program.

THAT STREETCAR NAMED 'DESIRE'

The people of New Orleans are to lose their most famous streetcar—the one named "Desire." The city utilities commission said plans are being discussed to substitute electric buses on the route now traveled by the Desire car. The electric bus (also would be named Desire, but the commission admits it would look different) New Orleans will "would" have on street car with a colorful name, though—the one called "Cameariet."

FREE CONCERTS OPEN MONDAY UNDER WINKS

The Los Alamos concert band under the direction of John Winks will present a series of free concerts in the town square on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The program will be as follows: Monday, "The Song of the Willow Echoes"; Tuesday, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"; Wednesday, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow."

Personal and instrumental of the band is listed by the director as follows: Frances Robert, Director; George, Pat Higgins, and Carmen Koch; Trombones—Fred Kelly, Ed Macmanis, Willie Macmanis, Arnie Rosensch, Carl Schroeder, Stephen Warrick, French bass—Robert Bartholomew, Victor Josephson, Jerry Lawrence, Lloyd Mitchell, Frank Corvick, Jerry Resneck, James Winkler.

Trumpets—Robert, Cronk, Ron Feltner, Jack Scott, Carlman, and Robert Armstrong, Alvin Emery, Robert Winks, William Williams, bass—Holla—Harmon, Lucy, drums—O. McManis, Richard Mower, Roy Stone and Robert Foster.

OFFICERS CLUB OKAYS WITH DANCE SUNDAY

The Officers Club and Officers' (the Officers' Lounge) will be formally opened with a dance from 8 to 7 p.m. Sunday in the lounge quarters. Members and persons eligible for membership may attend.

SECRETARY ROY PROJECT WITH

Secretary of the Army, Roy, will lead a special weapons project at a special trip to Los Alamos Saturday. He will be accompanied by several officials, including Assistant Manager Elmo Anderson, Harris E. Bradburn, and others. The project is part of the ABC security service. After conferring with local officials in ABC headquarters, the visitors were taken on a brief tour of the area. Following the tour, Roy and his staff remained at the visitors at lunch in the Curtis room at Fuller Lodge. The group left by plane at 1:10 p.m.

Army Secretary Kenneth G. Roy has called for increased scientific research to keep the U. S. far ahead in science and technology. In that way, Roy said, it would be possible for any other nation to attack us.

Royal, speaking at a dinner in Los Angeles, said, according to AP:

"We are making marked and encouraging progress in scientific research. We must be kept into a scientific, scientific line."

Royal said increasing equipment, stock piles of critical materials, and universal military training also are essential to our defense.

In addition to General Gruent, the visiting group included: Maj. Gen. H. R. Angrand, director of research and development; Col. A. Robert Oshagura, assistant assistant and Lt. Col. James H. Batta, aide-de-camp. Brig. Gen. James McCormack, ABC director of military applications, came here from Washington to greet the party. Other guests included: Capt. C. R. Cooper, and navy Captain J. T. Hayward, all of Sandia, also were on the tour.

The full list of those attending were: Morgan, Royall, Bradburn, General Angrand, Dr. F. O. McLean, General McCormack, Colonel Batta, Captain Hayward, Colonel Batta, Col. C. R. Cooper, Col. Cooper, Colonel Oshagura, Eric E. Jahn, Colonel Oshagura, John E. Manley, General Gruent, and R. E. McKee.

COUNCIL SLATES PUBLIC MEETINGS TWICE MONTH

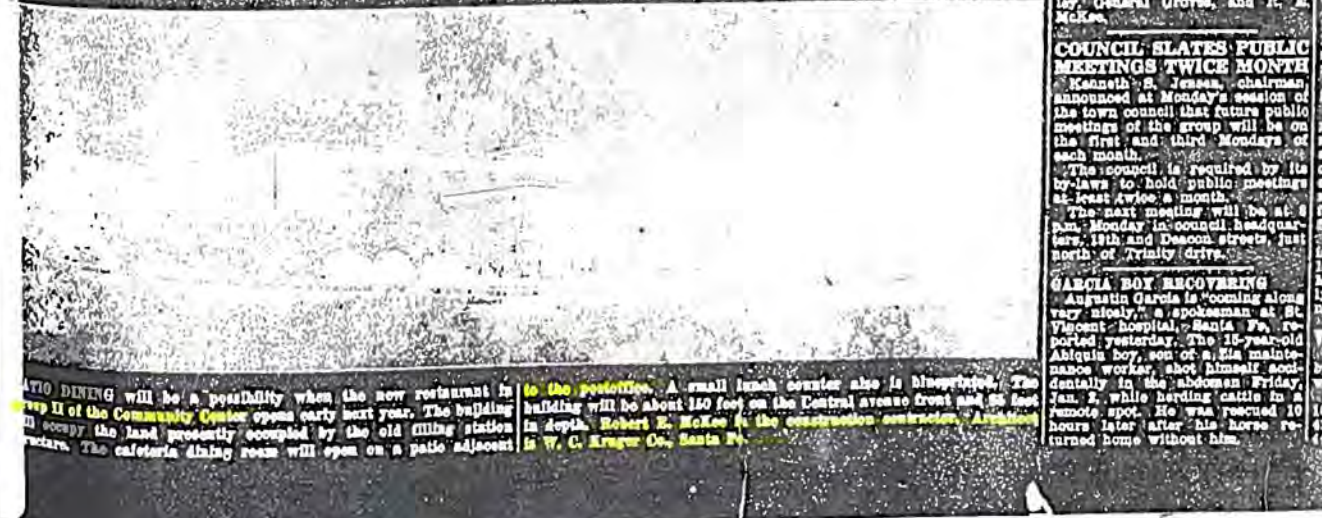
Kenneth S. Jensen, chairman, announced at Monday's session of the town council that future public meetings of the group will be on the first and third Mondays of each month.

The council is required by its by-laws to hold public meetings at least twice a month.

The next meeting will be at 8 p.m. Monday in council headquarters, 19th and Deacon streets, just north of Trinity drive.

GARCIA BOY RECOVERED

Augustin Garcia is "coming along very nicely," a spokesman at St. Vincent Hospital, Santa Fe, reported yesterday. The 15-year-old Abiquia boy, son of a Ma maintenance worker, shot himself accidentally in the abdomen Friday, Jan. 2, while herding cattle in a remote spot. He was rescued 10 hours later after his horse returned home without him.



CAFO DINING will be a possibility when the new restaurant in Group II of the Community Center opens early next year. The building in Group II, the land presently occupied by the old filling station structure. The cafeteria dining room will open on a patio adjacent

to the prototype. A small lunch counter also is blueprinted. The building will be about 150 feet on the Central avenue front and 25 feet in depth. Robert E. McKee is the construction contractor. Architects are W. C. Kruger Co., Santa Fe.

1/16/47 - LATimes

**POST OFFICE GOES
FIRST CLASS JULY 1**

Los Alamos post office will become "first class" on July 1, Acting Postmaster Ismael Trujillo said this week. Postage sales in excess of \$40,000 is the basis of the new status, he said. Established May 16, 1947, the post office employs 30. Addition of a new superintendent of mails, contingent on the first class designation, will be made before that time.

EL36 D 9

6/25/48

Los Alamos Times



A GALLANT QUARTER traces this new three-cent stamp which proclaims interfaith in action. The stamp commemorates the sinking of the S. S. Dorchester with the four chaplains aboard. From left they are: George L. Fox, Clark V. Poling, John P. Washington and Alexander D. Goode. Postmaster Jesse M. Donaldson released description of the stamp on April 14, and it will be released in Washington on May 28. (Acme.)

Farewell, P.O. Box 1663**Site Goes On Mailing Map With Postal Control Shift**

Los Alamos will have a post office address of its own beginning Friday, according to Col. Herbert C. Gee, manager, Santa Fe area, Atomic Energy Commission, and commanding officer. On that day, control of the base post office will be transferred from the War Department to the United States post office department.

Ismael Trujillo, Espanola, has been appointed acting postmaster at the site. Capt. Margaret Upshaw, who expects to be transferred June 1, will remain with the WAC.

Los Alamos Times 5/9/47

The library has traditionally been Los Alamos' most popular hang-out. Mesa Library regularly checks out the most books per capita of any public library in the country.

The Library moves

to new quarters in the remodeled Central Cafeteria building.

**Mesa Library Moves Tuesday**

Plans, hopes, and expectations will come to full realization Tuesday, after a year's planning, when the Mesa Library will have moved from its former location on Trinity Drive to remodeled quarters in the old Central Cafeteria building, 1951 Central Avenue.

Very little structural change has been needed to convert the Cafeteria building for library use. The work has mainly involved plumbing, heating, wiring, and lighting. Increased space has allowed the board to plan a children's book room which will be opened at a later date when special children's furniture arrives. Secured for the University of California extension course reference library, periodical racks a recreation and general reading room are among some the needs that have been provided.



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

RECEIVED 2280

JUN 19 2015

Susana Martinez
Governor

BATAAN MEMORIAL BUILDING
407 GALISTEO STREET, SUITE 236
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
PHONE (505) 827-6320 FAX (505) 827-6338

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

May 26, 2015

J. Paul Loether
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W. 8th floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the United States Post Office—Los Alamos, New Mexico in Los Alamos County, New Mexico to the National Register of Historic Places.

- Disk of National Register of Historic Places nomination form and maps as a pdf
- Disk with digital photo images
- Physical signature page
- Sketch map(s)/attachment(s) in hard copy
- Correspondence
- Other:

COMMENTS:

- This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- The enclosed owner objection(s) do do not constitute a majority of property owners.
- Special considerations: Note that this property is nominated at the national level of significance.

Sincerely,

Steven Moffson
State and National Register Coordinator

Enclosures