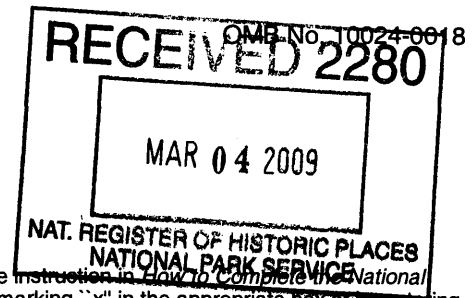


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

215



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

1. Name of Property

historic name United States Post Office Hollis

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 120 North Second Street [N/A] not for publication

city or town Hollis [N/A] vicinity

state Oklahoma code OK county Harmon code 057 zip code 73550

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

[Signature] State Historic Preservation Officer 10-20-08 Date

Oklahoma Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

[Signature] Federal Preservation Officer 10/29/08 Date

United States Postal Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- other, explain
 - See continuation sheet.

Signature of the Keeper [Signature] Date of Action 4/17/09

United States Post Office Hollis
Name of Property

Harmon County, Oklahoma
County/State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

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.)

Oklahoma Post Offices with Section Art

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(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: Art Deco

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	CONCRETE
walls	BRICK
	CONCRETE
roof	UNCOLLECTED
other	_____

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Politics/Government

Art

Periods of Significance

1939-1941

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

SIMON, LOUIS A., SUPERVISING ARCHITECT
GOFF, LLOYD LOZES, MURAL ARTIST

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Oklahoma Historical Society/SHPO

United States Post Office Hollis
Name of Property

Harmon County, Oklahoma
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than 1 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 14 415753 3838030
Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Alyson Greiner / Associate Professor of Geography

organization Oklahoma State University date 7/19/2007

street & number 225 Scott Hall telephone 405-744-9169

city or town Stillwater state OK zip code 74078-4073

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

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

Property Owner

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

name United States Postal Service

street & number 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW telephone 800-275-8777

city or town Washington state DC zip code 20260-3100

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

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**United States Post Office Hollis
Harmon County, OklahomaSection number 7 Page 1**DESCRIPTION**

The United States Post Office in Hollis, Oklahoma stands on the southwest corner of the intersection of North Second and West Jones Street. Situated just one block north of Broadway and three blocks north of the railroad, the post office is located in the heart of downtown Hollis. When constructed in 1939 the post office, unlike other typical commercial buildings, was set back farther from the street. The deeper setback visually and physically distinguishes the building. The post office building is bordered by a grassy strip on the south, a parking lot and loading zone on the west, and shrubs as well as spaces for 45-degree angle parking on the north. Several beds planted to shrubs and flowers border the east side, the building's front. A flagpole stands to the southeast of the building and is mirrored on the northeast by a war memorial sponsored by the Harmon County American Legion Post.

The footprint of the post office follows a simple plan that is nearly square in shape. Though the building can be classified stylistically as Art Deco, its decorative details are modest. The post office is constructed of buff brick and concrete. It is a one-story building with a basement. At the top of the walls a narrow band of concrete coping surrounds the building. Shrubs on the east elevation hide the cornerstone which lists the date of the building's construction and names of project and government officials. All of the original wooden windows on the first floor have been replaced with aluminum windows. The basement level, however, retains the original multi-pane wooden windows.

The east elevation is symmetrical and is divided into three sections differentiated by their wall materials and their fenestration. The northern and southern sections of the east elevation have brick walls and tall, slender windows. The upper part of the window consists of a fixed pane of glass, while the lower part consists of a hung window. The wall space below the windows is filled not with bricks, but with a very light beige-colored concrete, which matches the lightest tones in the buff bricks. The window and the wall below it are outlined by a rectangle of recessed bricks. The wall material in the middle section of the east elevation consists of more of the same light-colored concrete, which helps to visually set apart and frame the entrance to the building.

Seven steps rise to the metal double-door entrance to the building. There is a large transom window above the front doors. Large, rectangular windows fill most of the wall space on either side of the entrance. The windows here are in the same style as the windows described above. Two lampposts, one on either side of the porch, stand in front of the windows. The porch space behind the lampposts is enclosed by metal railing. Stamped into the concrete above the entrance and just below the roofline are the words "UNITED STATES POST OFFICE." Below that, in smaller letters, are the words: "HOLLIS OKLAHOMA." Centered in the concrete above the windows and the door are three stylized shafts of wheat designed to appear as if they rise from rolling terrain. A slightly projecting concrete shelf or mantelpiece underscores each of these designs.

The primary wall material on the north elevation consists of buff brick cladding. Small sections of the walls below four of the windows are filled with beige-colored concrete. This elevation of the building contains five spaces for windows but only four actually have windows. The space for the middle window is filled with buff brick cladding similar to that used elsewhere on the wall. All five of the window spaces are outlined by a rectangle of recessed bricks. The upper part of the window consists of a fixed pane of glass, while the lower part consists of a hung window. The upper pane in each of the windows on this elevation has been painted a beige color.

The south elevation closely resembles the north elevation in the wall cladding and window style. There are, however, five windows and the second one (counting from Second Street) has been altered to

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**United States Post Office Hollis
Harmon County, OklahomaSection number 7 Page 2

accommodate an automatic door and wheelchair-accessible entrance. In only the last two windows (from Second Street) has the upper pane of glass been painted a beige color. There are two vents below the fifth window and adjacent to an outside staircase that provides access to the basement.

The west elevation is the back of the building and the wall material here consists entirely of buff brick cladding. The symmetry of this elevation is interrupted slightly by the presence of a chimney stack and a small flat-roofed room designed in the same style as the rest of the building. This room, used to handle the loading and unloading of mail, projects from the back of the building and has a roofline that is lower than the rest of the building. There are metal slab double doors that are slightly off-center on the west elevation of this room and paired, hung windows on the north and south elevations. The double-doors open onto a raised, concrete platform added to facilitate loading and unloading mail trucks. A metal overhang supported by four metal poles has also been added to cover the loading zone.

Inside, the lobby shows fairly minimal changes and retains a high degree of its historic integrity. Postal patrons entering the building still pass through the original five-sided glass and wood vestibule with its original heater. The vestibule projects into the lobby area which has an "L"- shape such that one leg of the "L" parallels Second Street, and the other follows the south elevation of the building. The lobby floor consists of alternating squares of tan and rose-colored terrazzo tile, while the bottom portions of the walls are covered with marble wainscoting. To the north of the entrance and above the postmaster's door hangs the mural, *Mapping the Trail*, painted by Lloyd Lozes Goff on canvas. A beveled piece of wood that matches the doorframe extends along the bottom of the mural like part of a frame. Wood and glass display cases fill the wall space below the mural on either side of the postmaster's door.

Most of the original woodwork, glass, brass grilles at the counter area remain intact and in excellent condition. Together, these features provide a clear indication of how the counter space in the post office was historically partitioned to provide separate transactional spaces for the different services available as well as slots for processing different kinds of mail. The original labels identifying these services still exist and are painted in gold either on the woodwork that frames the counter space or on the glass. Facing the counter and reading from left to right, the labels are: "Papers and Packages," "Out of Town Mail," "Stamps," "General Delivery Stamps," "Parcel Post Stamps," "Money Order Postal Stamps," and "Registry COD." Just one small section of the counter area today is used for transactions with the public; it is the part of the counter under the "Parcel Post Stamps" label.

Mapping the Trail depicts five trail riders discussing the route of their cattle drive in the midst of their dilapidated camp. Their denim attire seems to mark them as early twentieth century cowboys, and the landscape with its rust-colored soil and sparse vegetation suggests the southwestern landscape of Oklahoma, although Goff may have used New Mexican terrain. The sod dwelling adorned with a horseshoe and a cattle skull offers contradictory messages of luck and the passing of life, respectively. With the coming storms in the background, Goff crafts an image of the uncertain life of the cowboy, often fraught with economic and environmental challenges. Cattle drives had become increasingly rare in the early twentieth century and the romantic cowboy that Goff depicts in *Mapping the Trail* was disappearing from the southwestern landscape during his lifetime.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**United States Post Office Hollis
Harmon County, OklahomaSection number 8 Page 1**SIGNIFICANCE**

The United States Post Office in Hollis is significant within the Multiple Property Nomination, "Oklahoma Post Offices with Section Art." The post office was built in 1939 and has continuously provided mail service to the surrounding hinterlands in southwestern Oklahoma since. Through the Section, a federal New Deal program that commissioned artists to create artworks for federal buildings, the post office building in Hollis was selected to receive a mural and Lloyd Lozes Goff was awarded the commission. The mural he conceived and painted hangs inside the building on the north wall. That mural, *Mapping the Route*, was painted in oil and tempera on canvas and installed in 1941. Because of its association with these events and because it represents a significant and distinguishable entity, the post office in Hollis is significant under Criteria A and C.

Historical Significance:

Lloyd Lozes Goff (1918-1982) was born in Dallas, Texas. He obtained some initial training from the painter Frank Reaugh, a former cattle-driver. Goff went on to attend the Dallas Art Institute and took courses with Thomas Stell. He attracted attention in 1932 when he showed his work in the exhibit, "Nine Young Dallas Artists." From this point forward he would often be referred to as one of the Dallas Nine. In 1936 Goff earned a scholarship to study at the Art Students' League in New York City. He stayed there for four years and studied closely with George Grosz and Kenneth Hayes Miller before transferring to the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque (UNM) where he would be mentored by Kenneth Adams and Raymond Jonson.

Before Goff painted the mural for the Hollis post office he worked as an assistant on Paul Cadmus's murals for the United States Embassy in Ottawa, Reginald Marsh's frescoes for Custom House in New York, and Edward Laning's murals for the New York Public Library. Through this work he gained exposure to several of the different federal programs employing artists. Goff also painted a Section mural, *Before the Fencing of Delta County*, for the post office in Cooper, Texas. He completed that in 1939. The mural for the Hollis, Oklahoma post office was the second and last of his Section murals. These two murals feature cowboy subject matter and are suggestive of Reaugh's influence. Goff likely painted *Mapping the Trail* during his early days at the University of New Mexico, and the naturalistic style of the mural indicates the influence of UNM professor Kenneth Adams, who painted recognizable imagery with subtle, non-representation shifts in color. Though Goff's stylistic approach is fairly naturalistic, he does use intense color in the sky and soil, and he occasionally mottles forms through the introduction of multiple colors. These touches of modernism are consistent with the general spirit of American Scene painting, which sought a focus on naturalistic imagery infused with some experimental techniques.

Summary:

Construction of the United States Post Office in Hollis, Oklahoma was made possible through an allocation of federal funds earmarked specifically for post office buildings. Like many towns and cities across the country, Hollis received a new post office building that was completed in 1939. Hollis was also selected to receive a Section mural, completed and installed in 1941. The United States Post Office in Hollis is not unique. It is included within the Multiple Property Nomination, "Oklahoma Post Offices with Section Art" because of its strong association with events in the arenas of politics/government and art that have had a significant contribution to the patterns of American history. This qualifies it under Criterion A. Moreover, in accordance with Criterion C, the post office building

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**United States Post Office Hollis
Harmon County, OklahomaSection number 8 Page 2

itself stands as an excellent example of a property that represents a significant and distinguishable entity because it retains a high degree of internal and external integrity. For these reasons, the United States Post Office in Hollis, Oklahoma qualifies for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**United States Post Office Hollis
Harmon County, OklahomaSection number 9 Page 1**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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- Rogers, Kathleen Grisham. 1974. *Incidence of New Deal Art in Oklahoma: An Historical Survey*. Master's Thesis, University of Oklahoma.
- Scott, Barbara Kerr, and Sally Soelle. 1983. *New Deal Art—The Oklahoma Experience, 1933-1943*. Lawton, OK: Cameron University.
- Soelle, Sally. 1984. *New Deal Art Projects in Oklahoma, 1933-1943*. Master's thesis, University of Oklahoma.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**United States Post Office Hollis
Harmon County, OklahomaSection number 10 Page 1

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

This property consists of the Block 1, lots 1 through 6 of the Original Hollis Addition.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

This boundary includes the property historically associated with the Hollis Post Office.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

United States Post Office Hollis
Harmon County, Oklahoma

Section number 11 Page 1

PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to photograph numbers 1-19 except as noted:

Name of Property: United States Post Office Hollis
Photographer: Alyson Greiner
Date of Photographs: July 18, 2007
Negatives: N/A; photos are digital TIFFs

Photo No.	Photographic Information
1	View of interior mural and postmaster's door; interior lights on; camera facing north
2	View of interior mural and postmaster's door; interior lights on; camera facing north
3	View of interior mural and postmaster's door; interior lights off; camera facing north
4	View of interior mural and postmaster's door; interior lights off; camera facing north
5	View of postmaster's door and wall below mural; camera facing north
6	View of post office lobby, mural, vestibule; camera facing north northeast
7	View of post office lobby, counter, mural, vestibule; camera facing north
8	View of post office lobby, counter area, vestibule; camera facing northwest
9	View of interior north wall with mural and postmaster's door; camera facing northeast
10	View of exterior, east elevation of post office; camera facing west
11	View of exterior east and north elevations of post office; camera facing southwest
12	View of exterior east and north elevations of post office including flag pole; camera facing southwest
13	View of exterior east and north elevations of post office and surrounding grounds; camera facing southwest
14	View of exterior east and south elevations of post office; camera facing northwest
15	View of exterior east and south elevations of post office with partial view of flag pole; camera facing northwest
16	View of exterior west and south elevations of post office; camera facing northeast
17	View of exterior west elevation with partial view of north elevation; camera facing southeast
18	View of exterior west and north elevations; camera facing southeast
19	View of war memorial on post office grounds; camera facing west