

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Louisiana
COUNTY: Caddo Parish
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE SEP 12 1974

1. NAME

COMMON: U.S. Post Office and Court House
AND/OR HISTORIC: Same

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Marshall and Texas Streets			
CITY OR TOWN: Shreveport		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Fourth	
STATE: Louisiana	CODE 22	COUNTY: Caddo Parish	CODE 017

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. AGENCY

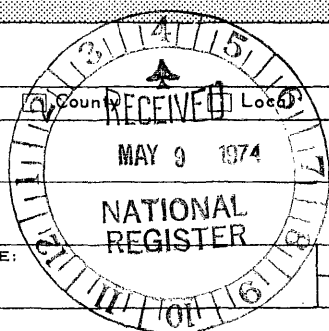
General Services Administration - Public Buildings Service			
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable) Area Manager - Federal Building		STREET AND NUMBER: 600 South Street	
CITY OR TOWN: New Orleans		STATE: Louisiana	CODE 22

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Caddo Parish Courthouse			
STREET AND NUMBER: Marshall and Texas Streets			
CITY OR TOWN: Shreveport		STATE: Louisiana	CODE 22

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY:	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Shreveport Post Office and Courthouse is a large rectangular four story and basement structure with a hipped, red tile roof. The principal or S. East facade faces Texas street and is composed of a granite base and a rusticated limestone first story, divided into nine bays by Doric pilasters, doubled at each end of the facade. Each bay contains a large semi-circular head opening, the three center ones forming the entrance to the post office lobby, approached by a broad flight of steps. Above the decorated renaissance Doric cornice is a balustrade course with turned baluster inserts in front of each of the second story windows. These nine tall casement windows have moulded, decorated terra cotta frame surmounted by a cornice, the center window being further embellished by a curved pediment with an inscription and flagpole bracket. The third story windows have similar moulded frames without cornices and are nearly square in shape. Above the third story windows is the principal cornice which surrounds the building. The terra cotta cornice is also of decorated renaissance design with modillions and like the first story cornice, is surmounted by a balustrade course. Above this is a low attic story with rather small square windows with moulded frames. A small cap moulding and gutter terminates the attic story and the facade. Above the third and fourth story windows are small ventilating grilles. The corners of the building above the first story are emphasized by rusticated terra cotta quoins. The walls above the first story are of brick stuccoed, with terra cotta trim.

The Marshall street or S. West facade is similar to that on Texas street, but with ten bays and a single entrance in the end bay at the Texas street corner. The N. East and N. West facades face service alleys and are similar in design to the others, except that in the center of the N. East facade in the post office loading platform with an overhanging canopy.

The post office lobby, parallel to Texas street, repeats the bay spaces of the exterior with inlaid marble pilasters and handsome dome-vaulted ceiling. The upper stories contain office space and a large courtroom.

The building was originally only half its present size and only three stories in height. Blue prints of the original plans and photographs taken during construction and soon after completion (on file in the office of the building manager) reveal that the building originally had only five bays on both the N. East and S. West facades and that the tile roof rested on the third story cornice without the present fourth or attic story. The post office loading platform was located in the center of the north facade, being recessed into the building, the bay spacing being continued across the recess by the introduction of four round Doric columns. A metal canopy extended out from these columns over the loading platform. When the building was more than doubled in size by the north addition and fourth story, the work of matching stone, terra cotta and stucco work was so well done that it is almost impossible to tell that any changes had been made to the original structure.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1910-1912

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building in the Italian Renaissance style is an important example of the eclectic architecture of the early twentieth century and one of the most architecturally impressive buildings in Shreveport. Its location in the downtown area diagonally opposite to the Caddo Parish Courthouse gives it added significance in the urban scene. The plans were prepared under the direction of James K. Taylor, Supervising Architect, Treasury Department and are dated February 28, 1910. Work was begun that year and completed in 1912. The original site was acquired on April 12, 1884 and a brick, Victorian style post office building erected. This was demolished when the present building was built. Plans for the extension and remodeling, dated March 16, 1931, were prepared under the direction of James A. Wetmore, acting Supervising Architect, Treasury Department. The contractor was Algernon Blair. The building reflects a high quality of design and construction in governmental buildings in the early years of the twentieth century and its construction and enlargement are reflective of the growth and importance of Shreveport during these years.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lilla McLure and J. E. Howe, History of Shreveport and Shreveport Builders; Shreveport, 1937. p. 79.

Maude Hearn O'Pry, Chronicles of Shreveport, Shreveport, 1928. p. 110-117, p. 324.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		32° 30' 47"	93° 44' 58"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Three fifths of an acre +

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

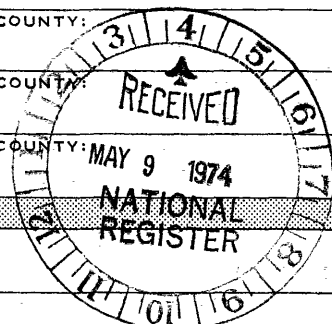
11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Samuel Wilson, Jr., FAIA, Architect DATE: March 10, 1973

BUSINESS ADDRESS: 914 Masonic Temple Building

STREET AND NUMBER: 333 St. Charles Avenue PHONE: 581-7023

CITY OR TOWN: New Orleans STATE: Louisiana CODE: 22



12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

- Yes
- No
- None

Jay R. [Signature]
State Liaison Officer Signature

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is National State

Local
Steve R. [Signature] 2/6/74
Federal Representative Signature Date
Historic Preservation
Liaison Officer

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 9/12/74

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date 9.11.74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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RECEIVED

APR 20 1978

DATE ENTERED

Addendum to U. S. Post Office and Courthouse, Caddo Parish, Louisiana

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE

8. Statement of Significance

The post office lobby, parallel to Texas Street, because of the repeated bay spaces of the exterior with inlaid marble pilasters and handsome dome-vaulted ceilings is a significant architectural feature of the building.

Submitted April, 1978.

Addendum to U. S. Post Office and Courthouse, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana which was entered on the National Register September 12, 1974.

