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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JAN 16 1990

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Winnemucca Main Post Office
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 4th and Melarkey Streets not for publication
city, town Winnemucca vicinity
state Nevada code NV county Humboldt code 013 zip code 89445

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	_____ objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Historic U.S. Post Offices in Nevada, 1891-1941
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

Ronald M. Jones, Deputy SHPO 11/13/89
Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] 1-10-90
Signature of commenting or other official Date

U.S. Postal Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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.

other, (explain:)

Amy Gederman 2/28/90
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

U.S. Post Office

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

U.S. Post Office

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Neo-Classical Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Tar composition

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Winnemucca Main Post Office is a one-story red brick building on a raised basement platform. The foundation and basement walls are steel-reinforced-concrete and rest on spread concrete footings. The front facade is flat, symmetrical and divided into five bays--a circular-arched main entry bay flanked by small vertically-aligned windows in the slightly projecting central section, and one larger window in each of the end wings. Terminating the facade is a simple wooden entablature with a slightly projecting dentiled-cornice. The building was extended rearward and remodeled in 1940, but the design integrity of the original building was maintained. A flat tar composition roof covers the building.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The five-bay front facade (south--facing 4th Street) is symmetrical and divided into three sections--a slightly projecting central salient and recessed wings. Resting on a raised concrete basement wall (brick-faced from grade to a wide concrete belt course), the one-story facade is faced with red brick set in Common bond. The bottom is defined by a brick soldier course (water table) and the top by a slightly projecting header course. In the central section is an entry bay flanked by a small window bay on each side. A single window bay is in each wing. Capping the facade is a simple wooden entablature consisting of a plain frieze, projecting dentiled-cornice and a plain low parapet (capped by painted metal flashing). Behind the parapet is a flat, built-up tar composition roof.

Two granite steps and approach landing, which extend across the central salient, provide access to the main entry. Square granite buttresses, upon which rest free-standing cast-iron lanterns, flank the stairs. The entry consists of double, aluminum-framed glass doors and an aluminum-framed transom window (originals replaced). The doors and transom are framed by a decorative wooden architrave consisting of flat pilasters and a simple entablature. Above the entabla-

See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Architecture
Politics/Government
Art

Period of Significance
1921-1941

Significant Dates
Site acq.-1913
Const.-1921
Addition-1940

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Wetmore, James A., Acting Supervising Architect/Federal Government; Gallagher, Frank, San Francisco, CA, Contractor

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Winnemucca MPO is a good example of a small town single-purpose post office. The building's Neo-Classical design originates from standardized plans developed by the Office of Supervising Architect. Winnemucca received one of the few buildings constructed by Uncle Sam in the 1920s. Indeed, Winnemucca was only the second Nevada town in the 20th century to receive a federal building (Reno's original federal building was the first, but has been razed). When the building was expanded to its rear in 1940, the design maintained the integrity of the original facades and essentially duplicated them in the addition. In conjunction with the addition and lobby remodel, the building received a mural which is one of three post office murals completed in Nevada during the Depression-era New Deal arts program. The 1940 addition and the mural symbolize the federal government's aid to and link with small communities during a period of national economic emergency. Furthermore, the expansion of the building demonstrated the town's growth and continuing importance as a regional center.

ARCHITECTURE

The Winnemucca MPO is one of only two remaining 20th century federally-constructed post offices in Nevada that originates from pre-1920 public buildings programs. The other remaining building is the former Fallon MPO (now owned by the city). (The 1891 Carson City Federal Building represents an earlier era; the 1909 federal building in Reno was razed in the 1930s.) Both the Winnemucca and Fallon buildings were originally approved in 1913 and both received their full appropriations by 1919. The Fallon building was delayed and finally post-poned until after the Public Buildings Act

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

- 1. Humboldt Star (Winnemucca), various articles 1913-1941.
- 2. Original Floor Plans, 1919.
- 3. Expansion and Remodel Plans, 1940.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- 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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

USPS Facilities Service Center
San Bruno, CA 94099-0330

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 0.37

UTM References

A 11 438260 4535750
Zone Easting Northing

B _____
Zone Easting Northing

C _____

D _____

Quadrangle name: Winnemucca East

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 7, 8 and a portion of 9, Block Q, City of Winnemucca. The site is on the Northeast (North) corner of Melarkey Street and West 4th Street. It is described as follows: Beginning at its South corner, then Northwest 130 feet, Northeast 125 feet, Southeast 130 feet, and Southwest 125 feet to point of beginning

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the property originally purchased by the federal government for the post office site.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title H.J. "Jim" Kolva, Project Manager; Steve Franks, Research Assistant
 organization Institute for Urban & Local Studies date February 1989
 street & number West 705 1st Avenue telephone (509) 458-6219
 city or town Spokane state WA zip code 99204

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ture is an eleven-light fan window. Further defining the entry bay is a brick header course which surrounds the architrave and fan window.

The windows flanking the entry are centered between it and the corner of the central section. They are narrow and vertically-aligned. Other than a flat arch composed by a brick soldier course, the bays are undefined. The sash is double-hung wood with four-over-four lights. Cast-concrete (painted white) roundels are inset above the windows. Between the roundels and windows are the words "United States Post Office" on the west side and "Winnemucca Nevada" on the east side (in raised bronze letters).

The windows of the end wings are larger than those immediately flanking the entry bay. They are defined by flat soldier course arches and recessed wooden panels below the sills. Aligned with the top of the entry transom, the window sash is double-hung wood with twelve-over-twelve lights. Inset above the windows are flat, rectangular-shaped cast-concrete panels (painted white).

The west facade (along Melarkey Street) includes the four-bay original building and the slightly recessed three-bay workroom addition. The detailing and use of materials is the same as described for the front facade. Extending rearward from the workroom (approximately 12 feet) is the single-bay mailing vestibule. It is lower in height than the adjoining workroom addition and is terminated by a simple metal flashing. The seven bays of the original building and workroom addition are defined by flat brick soldier course arches and recessed panels between the sills and water table. Inset above the windows are rectangular cast-concrete panels. The sash is double-hung wood with twelve-over-twelve lights. The window bay of the mailing vestibule is smaller than the other windows and is framed with a soldier course arch and cast concrete sill. The sash is double-hung wood with four-over-four lights.

The east facade is essentially identical to that just described; however, a square brick chimney is attached to the north corner of the mailing vestibule.

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of May 25, 1926. Meanwhile, Fallon grew and ended up with a much larger building (two-story, Neo-Classical) than did Winnemucca. Both cities received standardized buildings. The Winnemucca building has an unaltered duplicate in Basin, Wyoming (1919). Fallon's twin is in Price, Utah (1919). The design of the Winnemucca building is in the Neo-Classical mode and exemplifies the Beaux-Arts design philosophy that, at the time, ruled the Office of Supervising Architect. Although that philosophy had waned in the late-1930s, the intent of the original design was carried on in the addition (in any case, the side facades were rarely notable in either period--the emphasis was on the front). The design is simple, yet stately. It communicates the formality of the federal government and its presence in the community. In sum, the building is significant on the local level as a rare example of its design type and era and is thus significant under Criterion C.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

As Winnemucca's first and only Federally-constructed post office and a symbol of the Federal government's recognition of the community's regional importance, the building is locally significant under Criterion A. The presence of the Federal government was important to both Winnemucca and Humboldt County in their early stages of development. The building also represents the link between the local community and the Federal government and the successful lobbying efforts of the community through its elected representatives. As Winnemucca's local newspaper wrote in 1913 when the appropriation was first passed:

The Nevada Senators are entitled to the thanks and gratitude of the people of Winnemucca for the gallant and successful fight they made to secure the appropriation.... The amount is sufficient for a fine building, that will be useful, ornamental and a great credit to the town.

Six years would pass before the efforts of the people of Winnemucca and their representatives would meet with success and the post office would finally be constructed. It is also noteworthy that the people of Winnemucca undertook this lobbying effort not once but twice: first before and during

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World War I when they were attempting to get their first federal building and again in the late 1930s, which led to the expansion and remodeling of the post office. The success of both efforts symbolizes, first, the recognition of the town's stability and permanence, and second, its growth and continued regional importance.

ART

A mural, entitled "Cattle Round-up," is on the north wall of the lobby. The mural depicts several cowboys guiding some cattle into a shed while the bulk of the herd is being driven in from the broad expanse of the Nevada landscape. Oil on canvas (approximately 5' X 12'), the mural was executed by Polly Duncan in 1942. The Winnemucca MPO was one of only three in Nevada to receive a WPA mural.

The mural was completed under the auspices of the Federal Works Agency Section of Fine Arts. Federal sponsorship of visual arts programs began in 1933 when President Roosevelt authorized the development of the Public Works of Art Project (PWAP). This and subsequent programs were intended to provide work-relief for artists. After the demise of the PWAP program in June 1934, the Treasury Relief Art Project (TRAP) was established in July 1935. The Section of Painting and Sculpture, later the Section of Fine Arts, was established in October of 1934 by the Treasury Department. This was the program primarily responsible for murals and sculpture found in post offices throughout the country. Commissions were awarded on the basis of anonymous competitions without reference to artists need. In July of 1939, after reorganization of the Executive Branch, the entire building program of the Treasury Department and the Section were transferred to the new Federal Works Agency. The Section of Fine Arts-Federal Works Agency operated the program until June of 1943 when the activities of WWII shifted priorities. Again, it was under this program that the Winnemucca mural and post office murals in Lovelock and Yerington were completed.

The Section, which was administered in Washington, dealt directly with the artists, and selected artists through national and regional design competition. The Section sought the best decorative art that it could find for designated federal buildings. The intent of the program's administra-

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tors was that the work would reflect the themes and styles of the American scene, with a hope that it would strike a responsive chord in the general public. Although the program is attributed with having fostered an American Regionalism, art critics could never find a coherent body of work that was truly Regionalist or representative of particular sections of the country. The work that was created did, however, portray the American Scene in the form of localized subject matter. Further, the work resulting from the programs tended to pursue an inoffensive middle ground of style and content which was sometimes viewed as producing limp platitudes rather than strong statements. This resulted from the requirement for final approval from Washington as well as compliance with local preferences. The strife or dark side of the Depression was not portrayed, but instead the nostalgic and positive events of the American Scene were depicted.

The Winnemucca MPO is significant under Criterion A for its historic association with the federal government's New Deal public arts programs. The mural is also significant under Criterion C as an integral part of a building that represents a significant type, period, and style of artistic expression.

LOCAL CONTEXT

Winnemucca, the county seat and largest town of Humboldt County, lies along the Humboldt River on a high desert valley between rugged mountain ranges. It is located in northwestern Nevada, approximately 165 miles northeast of Reno and 75 miles south of the Oregon border. Mining, agriculture, and tourism (two major highways pass through the town) provide the base for the local economy. In 1987 Winnemucca had an estimated population of 6,010.

The origins of Winnemucca date back to the early 1850s, when a Frenchman established a trading post on the Humboldt River along the trail to California. In the 1860s huge freight teams traveled through the area, hauling supplies and silver ore from the silver mines at Silver City and Virginia City and from Montana and Idaho. In the late 1860s the settlement that grew from the trading post, first known as Frenchman's Ford, French Ford, French Bridge, and Ford, was

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named Winnemucca, in honor of the Paiute Indian Chief. When the tracks of the Central Pacific Railroad reached the area in September of 1868, the town prospered. By 1869 Winnemucca's business directory included four hotel owners, one restaurant keeper, two physicians-surgeons, a dentist, watchmaker, a shoemaker, and a photographic artist.

After the arrival of the railroad, freighting to the miners of the region increased rapidly. (Among the early miners who prospected the rich mineral deposits of Humboldt County was Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain), who prospected for gold around Unionville.) In the 1870s and 1880s sheep and cattle raising also developed. In 1872 the county seat of Humboldt County was transferred from Unionville to Winnemucca. (Another noteworthy event in Winnemucca's early, colorful history occurred on September 19th, 1900, when Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid paid a visit to Winnemucca and left with \$32,000 in gold coins from the town's First National Bank.)

At the turn of the century Winnemucca (precinct) had a population of 1,110 (total Humboldt County population was 4,463). In 1908 United States Senator George Nixon built the 1,500 seat Nixon Opera House. Nixon, who made a fortune in gold and banking while based in Winnemucca, donated the Opera House to the City of Winnemucca as a parting gift to his hometown. By 1910, Winnemucca precinct would claim 1,786 residents. A new Eagle's hall was built in 1912 and the new El Dorado Hotel opened its doors in 1913. As the federal post office was being bantered about in the following years, several commercial buildings, a new hotel, the First National Bank building, and the new Humboldt County Courthouse (1919-1920) were being built. The war in Europe raged and boosted the local economy by pushing up the demand and prices for wood and metals. In 1919, Humboldt County was divided and the new Pershing County was created with Lovelock as its county seat. Winnemucca's population (Union township) reached 1,934 in 1920.

Winnemucca City, as listed in the 1930 census, had a population of 1,989 while Union township, which included Winnemucca, had 2,109 residents. This accounted for more than half of the county's 3,795 residents. During the 1930s the Nixon Opera House received a facelift (to Moderne, with

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WPA assistance), a new Moderne fire station was built, the new Penny's store was completed, and various other public and private improvements were made in the city. In 1940 Winnemucca had 2,485 residents; it grew to a population of 2,847 in 1950. Between 1960 and 1970 growth was slight, from 3,453 to 3,587. In 1980 the city's population was 4,140.

The Winnemucca MPO is on the northeast corner of the intersection of 4th Street and Melarkey Street, fronting on 4th Street. The city's central business district is one block north and east. Adjacent to the northeast of the Post Office along 4th Street are offices and a branch bank. North of the Post Office is a single-family residence. On the northwest corner of the intersection is St. Paul's Catholic Church (1924). The southwest corner is occupied by an apartment building (1940) and the southeast corner is a vacant lot. The Humboldt County Courthouse (NHR, 1920) is one block southeast of the Post Office and the Nixon Opera House (NHR, 1908) is one block north.

LOCAL NEWSPAPER COVERAGE OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE WINNEMUCCA MAIN POST OFFICE

"Site Chosen for New Postoffice" headlined Winnemucca's Humboldt Star on January 24th, 1913. The newspaper reported that a new location for Winnemucca's post office had been sought for the past two years, but the rental price that the government had offered for leased space had been too low to attract offers. But now Mr. E. H. Brown & Associates planned to construct a new 50' x 60' brick building at 4th and Baud Streets, and the post office would occupy half of it. On February 7th it was reported that papers had been filed for the construction of the building, the site of which was in back of the present post office. Additional news regarding Winnemucca's post office came a few weeks later, on February 24th, when the Star announced: "Public Bldg for Winnemucca"; word had been received from Senators Francis G. Newlands and Key Pittman that there had been a favorable recommendation from the Committee on Public Buildings for a \$65,000 "public building" in Winnemucca. The bill had originally been introduced by the late Senator George S. Nixon shortly before his death.

On March 7th the Star announced that Winnemucca was to

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have its public building: the President had signed the appropriations bill. The paper published a telegram from Senators Newlands and Pittman announcing the news and noting:

The bitter fight made on the bill was on account of the provision for small postoffice buildings, such as the two we obtained for our State.... we were bitterly opposed to the plan of economy which consisted solely in cutting out the little appropriations for the West and maintaining the exorbitant appropriations for the East.

The paper observed that:

The Nevada Senators are entitled to the thanks and gratitude of the people of Winnemucca for the gallant and successful fight they made to secure the appropriation The amount is sufficient for a fine building, that will be useful, ornamental and a great credit to the town.

(The Star also wisely added that: "the people need not expect to see the construction work started within a few months, for the government moves slowly in matters of this kind.")

On April 23rd the Star reported that six bids had been submitted for the site of Winnemucca's public building, and that bids would be received up to the time of the selection of the site. Over a year later, on August 3rd, 1914, it was announced that a site at 4th and Melarky Streets to the rear of the First National Bank had been selected. The site cost \$5,000 and was owned by J. A. Cochran and James Sloan. Almost another year would pass before the Star reported that the site had been transferred over to the government and the buildings on the site were to be removed (April 5th, 1915). The paper noted that "Nothing definite can be ascertained as to when the construction of the building will be begun, but it is believed that it will be taken up sometime this year." Also at this time the Star reported news of the war in Europe, including predictions that the war might help the area's mining and wool business (articles of August 24th, 1914 and February 12th, 1915.)

On May 7th it was reported that Senator Pittman had written the Fallon Chamber of Commerce regarding its federal

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building, stating the Treasury Department was "so far behind that it would take several years to catch up...." An article of July 16th headlined "New System for Federal Buildings" reported that federal buildings would now be constructed in accordance with the needs and importance of the places where they were to be located; in the past some expensive post offices had "been built where postal receipts were not sufficient to support them." An article of October 4th gave a history of the congressional bills regarding Winnemucca's federal building (with credit given to Senators Newlands and Pittman and the late Senator Nixon). On the 22nd it was reported that Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo had stated, regarding Winnemucca's federal building, that there were a large number of federal buildings to be constructed and they all couldn't be built at once; only \$7,000,000 was available annually for construction. Over three years later, on November 29th, 1918, the Star reported on the building outlook for Winnemucca for 1919, noting that the El Dorado Hotel was to be rebuilt (after burning in 1918), a courthouse was to be built, and "an effort will be made to have work started on the federal building in Winnemucca."

The year 1919 brought the news that the State assembly had passed the bill creating Pershing County (after Lovelock citizens objected to the cost of the new Humboldt County Courthouse to be built in Winnemucca--March 4th article) and that bids were accepted for the controversial new \$134,821 courthouse (August 11th). There was also good news finally regarding the federal building: in January Winnemucca's Business Men's Association discussed the federal building and in April Senator Charles B. Henderson wrote that the \$60,000 project (\$55,000 for construction; \$5,000 for the site) had been appropriated an additional \$5,000 and that bids would probably be advertised for in the fall (articles of Jan 24th and April 2nd).

Finally, on August 18th the Star could report: "Post Office Bids Are Called For" (to be opened September 15th) and then, on September 29th, "Contract Is Let For Post Office." The paper noted:

Despite the newspaper knocking that has been indulged in of late for some unknown reason and the alleged unfavorable comment of so-called Reno democrats,

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Winnemucca is to have a postoffice building and a good one--in fact, the finest in the state outside of Reno. Reno and other knockers, political and otherwise, also have been predicting and hoping Winnemucca would never get its postoffice building, will please shed tears.

On December 24th the Star reported "Outlook Bright for Winnemucca," noting major projects such as the Hotel Humboldt and Catholic Church (across the street from the federal building) to be constructed in the Spring, the Courthouse currently under construction, and the federal building, for which the excavation work had been completed. On March 26th, 1920 the paper further detailed Winnemucca's "great building boom," noting:

Never before in the history of Winnemucca has there been so many fine buildings in the course of construction at the present time--buildings of great size and of modern construction that will make the old town by the Humboldt one of the principal cities in the State.

Regarding the federal building, it was reported that Frank Gallagher, the contractor of the building, had arrived from San Francisco and that "in a few days aggressive building operations will be in progress." In October Postmaster M. A. MacFarlane reported that the brickwork on the post office was finished and the roof was being installed (October 1st article). Fall and winter passed and in the spring of 1921, the building had finally become a reality. An article of April 15th, 1921 reported the building was about completed. It stated: "It is a fine building from every point of view, and a gift from the government that every citizen should be proud of." On May 9th, the Star announced that Postmaster M. A. MacFarlane and his crew were in the new building and it was ready for service.

Almost twenty years later, on May 24th, 1939, the Star reported that Congressman J. G. Scrugham had secured \$85,000 for a new federal building and post office. The paper credited the efforts of the Humboldt County Chamber of Commerce, "numerous" Winnemucca businessmen, and the efforts of Nevada's representatives in Washington, D.C. Efforts had been underway for four years to get an appropriation; the contemplated new building would be on the southwest corner

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of Melarkey and 4th Streets, across from the present post office. But on June 16th it was reported that the plans called for expanding the existing post office and adding additional offices to the building. It was further explained on November 9th that Emiol Snider, the Chamber of Commerce Secretary who started the drive for the building, had heard from Senator Pat McCarran that plans for the addition had been approved; 1,800 square feet would be added to the building and the tentative drawings called for two stories. (Also during this time Winnemucca received an \$18,000 WPA grant for a \$40,000 new sewage plant--November 7th, article.) Just a month later though the Chamber of Commerce was planning to contact Congressman J. G. Scrugham to have the plans changed, since they called for an extension to the rear with only two offices, rather than a second story.

The new year of 1940 brought further news of the post office addition. On May 21st it was reported that the drawings for a 40' x 46' addition were nearing completion, while on June 20th the advertising for the construction bids began. On July 26th it was announced that the Kansas City firm of Bushboom & Raugh was the low bidder, with a bid of \$58,000. An article of August 6th reported that Senator Pat McCarran had wired that construction would soon start.

News of the war in Europe filled the Star's pages throughout this period. On August 28th the Star reported that the post office rebuilding project was to start the following week; it would be a three-month job and employ an average of 20 men. (It was also announced that the registration of aliens would begin at the post office.) In September it was announced a new Penny's store would be built in Winnemucca and that WPA work was employing 60 people in Humboldt County (articles of September 23rd and 25th). October in Winnemucca found "hundreds" registering for the draft and participating in a patriotic rally (October 16th article), while in November a \$170,000 county high school bond and \$150,000 hospital addition bond passed.

"Contractors Rush Work at Postoffice" reported the Star on May 7th, 1941. Work was slated for completion by June 15th; work had been hampered by cold, wet weather and difficulty in getting lumber. More WPA grants were also reported: a \$14,121 grant for the hospital and a \$25,000 grant for the

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sewage plant (articles of April 27th and July 16th). War-related headlines filled the Star's pages, but a headline of September 11th read: "Businessmen Complain of Mail Service." The paper reported that: "with the \$58,000 enlarging program recently completed at the post office, this community was led to believe that postal facilities would be improved, but instead the opposite effect has been realized." The post office had fewer workers than three years previously, trains were running late, there were fewer lock boxes than in the old office, and the Chamber of Commerce was launching a drive to secure inspection of the post office. On September 12th it was announced that a postal official was coming to Winnemucca, at Senator McCarran's request.

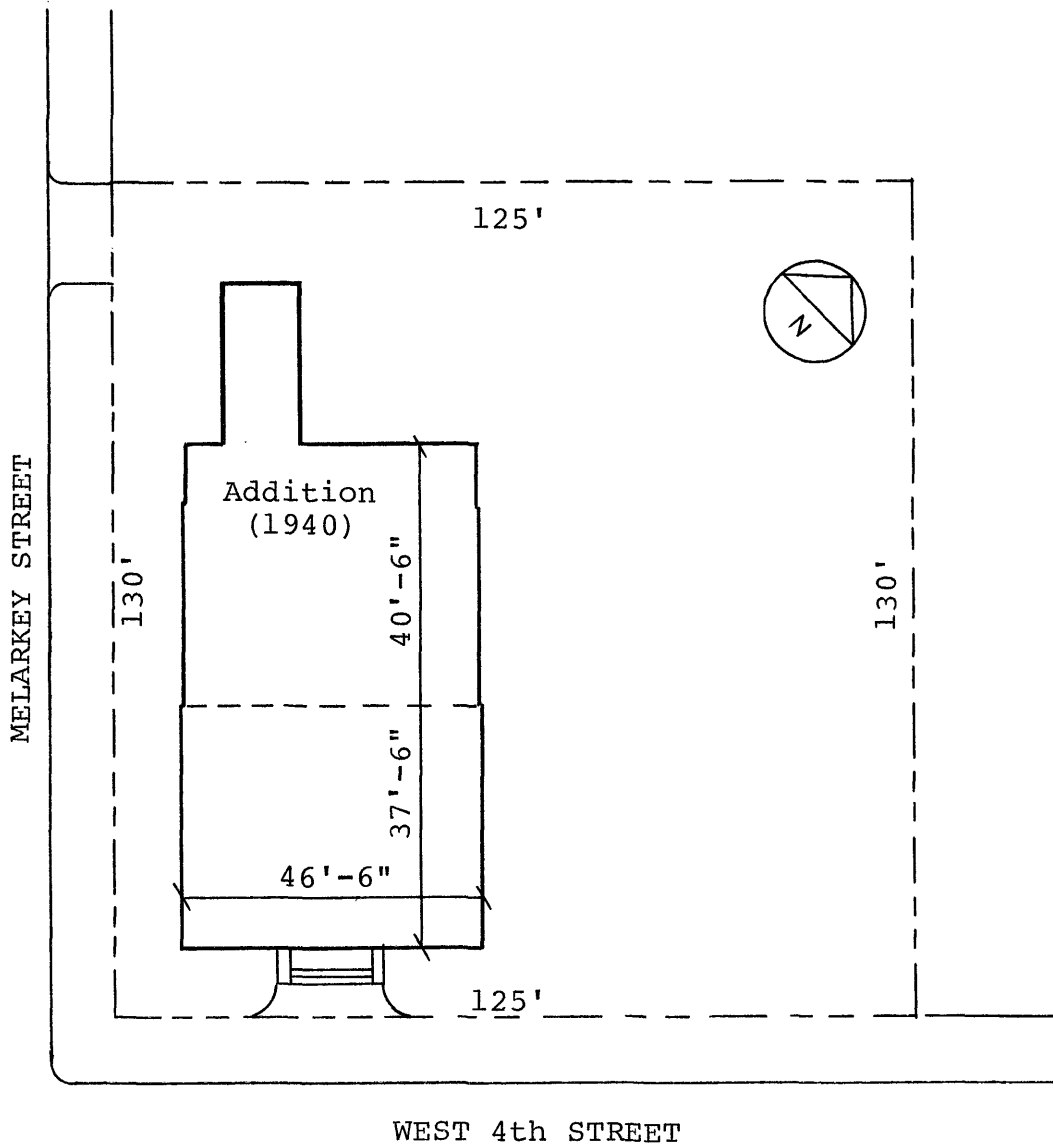
War-related headlines continued to fill the Star's pages throughout 1940 and 1941, a headline of December 8th, 1941 reading: "U.S. DECLARES WAR!"

Although the primary function of the building has been as the city's main post office, various federal agencies, including the department of agriculture and internal revenue service, have occupied four offices in the basement from the buildings completion until the early 1980s. These offices have been vacant since that time.

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The following information is the same for all the photographs listed:

1. Winnemucca MPO
2. Winnemucca, Nevada
3. Jim Kolva
4. June 1988
5. Negatives on file at USPS Facilities Service Center, San Bruno, CA.

Photo No. 1 (negative #32)

6. View to northwest

Photo No. 2 (negative #33)

6. View to west

Photo No. 3 (negative #34)

6. View to north

Photo No. 4 (negative #35)

6. Lobby mural