


City, Village or Town: WAUKESHA County: WAUKESHA Surveyor: HNTB Date: 2/10/82

Street Address: 235 W. Broadway Avenue Legal Description: Addendum Acreage: Less than one acre

Current Name & Use: Independence Bank Current Owner: First National Bank of Waukesha

Film Roll No. WK-6 Negative No. 1 Facade Orient. E



Current Owner's Address: 831 N. Grand Avenue

Special Features Not Visible In Photographs:
 UTM: Zone 16
 Easting: 399740
 Northing: 4762550
 USGS Waukesha Quadrangle/Scale: 1:24,000
 Interior visited? Yes No

| Original Name & Use: (preferred) | Source | Previous Owners | Dates | Uses | Source |
|--|--------|-----------------|-------|------|--------|
| 2 Waukesha Post Office | A | | | | |
| Dates of Construction /Alteration | Source | | | | |
| 1913 | A | | | | |
| Architect and/or Builder: | Source | | | | |
| Oscar Wenderoth, supervising architect | A | | | | |

3 Architectural Significance

Represents work of a master
 Possesses high artistic values
 Represents a type, period, or method of construction
 Is a visual landmark in the area
 Other: _____ None

4 Historical Significance

Assoc. with lives of significant persons
 Assoc. with significant historical events
 Assoc. with development of a locality
 Other: _____
 None

Architectural Statement:
See Continuation Sheet

Historical Statement:
See Continuation Sheet

5 Sources of Information (Reference to Above)

A Cornerstone

B Waukesha Freeman, October 15, 1914 Vol. LVI No. 42 p. 1

C Loerke, Jean Penn, "Walking Tour", Waukesha County Historical Museum, 1973.

D Withey, Henry. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased) 1956 p. 644

E

F

6 Representation in Previous Surveys

HABS NAER WIHP NRHP landmark
 other:

7 Condition

excellent good fair poor ruins

8 District: _____

pivotal contributing non-contributing

initials: _____ date: _____

9 Opinion of National Register Eligibility

eligible not eligible unknown
 national state local initials: DS/CC

Waukesha City Map

6/1

WAUKESHA POST OFFICE (235 W. Broadway)
Intensive Survey Form - Continuation Sheet (1)

ARCHITECTURAL STATEMENT:

Description: The Post Office is an impressive Neoclassical building, prominently sited on a triangular lot near the historic Five Points area. Dominating the design is a semicircular portico, supported by six fluted Doric columns. The semicircular facade of the building contains a central entrance, capped by a large transom, and entablature supported by consoles. Pilasters further articulate the facade. The entablature of the portico continues around the remainder of the building unifying the design. Rising above the main mass of the building is the drum of the shallow dome which is capped with a copper roof. The exterior of the Post Office is composed of Bedford stone. A colonnade of red marble columns, with gold Corinthian capitals, encircles the interior lobby which is dominated by a coffered dome and stained glass skylight. (Continued Below)

Significance: The Post Office building is one of the best remaining examples of Classic Revival architecture in Waukesha, and consequently is significant as a representative example of a period of construction. The carefully balanced classical ornament of the exterior, is continued in the elaborate lobby interior, to create an impressive space. In addition, the building is well suited to the triangular site and serves as an important local landmark. Other examples of Classic Revival design include the Masonic Temple (317 South St Wk 48/4), and in altered condition the Public Library (Wk 48/27), the National Exchange Bank (309 W. Main Street Wk 6/29) and the Waukesha National Bank (831 N. Grand Ave. Wk 50/28).

HISTORICAL STATEMENT:

The Post Office was constructed in 1913 as the first federally owned post office in the City's history. It served as the Post Office from 1914 to 1962. It's life as a bank began at that time (C).

ADDENDUM

Legal Description: Lots 1-7 incl. Blk I Gale Barstow & Lockwood's
Plat Pt NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec3 T6N R19E Etc. Benman (Pts Lots 3 & 4 -- R110/1030)

ARCHITECTURAL STATEMENT: Description (Continued): The supervising architect for the Post Office was Oscar Wenderoth. Wenderoth was a native of Philadelphia but was first employed in Washington D.C. in the office of the U.S. Supervising Architect in 1897. Ten years later he was promoted to the post of Chief Draftsman and in 1912 was appointed head of the U.S. Supervising Architects office. Wenderoth assisted in the preparation of plans for government buildings, mainly Post Offices until his resignation in 1929. Wenderoth died in 1938. (D)