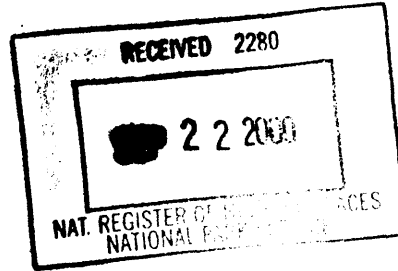


United States Department of Interior
National Park Service



1246

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 *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 Two Rivers Post Office
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number	1516 Eighteenth Street	N/A	not for publication
city or town	Two Rivers	N/A	vicinity
state Wisconsin	code WI	county Manitowoc	code 71
			zip code 54241

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 of certifying official/Title

Date

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.)

Alicia J. ...
Signature of commenting official/Title

July 26, 2000
Date

Deputy SHPO - WI

State or Federal agency and bureau

Two Rivers Post Office

Manitowoc County

Wisconsin

Name of Property

County and State

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.

See continuation sheet.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall

10/24/00

Edson

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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

structure

site

object

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

contributing noncontributing

1 0 buildings

 sites

 structures

 objects

1 0 total

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

United States Post Office Construction 1913-1943

State of Wisconsin - Milwaukee District

Number of contributing resources is previously listed in the National Register

0

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)

Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation limestone

walls brick

roof asphalt

other limestone

Narrative Description

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

Two Rivers Post Office
Name of Property

Manitowoc
County and State

Wisconsin

8. Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1933

Significant Dates

1933

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Wetmore, James
Schley, Perce

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Two Rivers Post Office
Name of Property

Manitowoc County
County and State

Wisconsin

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/title	John S. Sorenson, Program Manager, Historic Preservation		
organization	US Postal Service, Customer Service Facilities		
street&number	475 L'Enfant Plaza	telephone	202-268-3107
city or town	Washington	state	DC
		zip code	20260-6235

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7

Page 1

Two Rivers Post Office, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin

Narrative Description

The Two Rivers Post Office is an imposing building located in the downtown business district of Two Rivers, Wisconsin. The one story building was built in 1933 of red brick with limestone trim in a Georgian Revival style. The plan of the building is irregular; the front portion, containing the main lobby, has a hipped roof, the roof of the back portions of the building is flat. The entire building sits on an elevated limestone foundation.

The building cornerstone notes: "William H. Woodin, Secretary of the Treasury, James A. Farley, Postmaster General, Lawrence W. Robert, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, James A. Wetmore, Acting Supervising Architect, George Schley and Sons, Perce G. Schley, Architect, 1933."

The façade of the Two Rivers Post Office consists of a five-bay central portion flanked by projecting end pavilions. The central bay of the façade contains the entry doors. Above the doors is a fifteen light window. The window and doors are contained within a limestone surround. At the top is a cartouche decorated with an eagle. Full height Tuscan pilasters divide the five bays of the central portion. The pilasters visually support a large, stone entablature and a denticulated cornice. The windows in the four flanking bays are twelve over twelve, double hung. The lintels are of brick with a limestone keystone. Below each window is a panel of brick headers. This is contrast to the remaining wall treatment, which is laid in Flemish bond. All the windows of the main block are treated in this fashion. The side pavilions are framed by limestone quoins and each contains a single window. Above the cornice is a balustraded parapet. The limestone balusters are aligned with the window and door openings of the main block. Basement windows are located below each of the windows of the main block. The front door is reached by granite stairs with concrete sidewalls. The light fixtures on these sidewalls appear to be original.

The twelve over twelve window configuration is carried on all four sides of the building. The side elevations consist of the main block with quoins and a balustraded parapet. There are three windows on this portion of the side elevation. The south elevation steps back slightly to set the back portion off from the main block. The north elevation has two set. The rear elevation features a loading dock.

The interior has a terrazzo floor and a marble wainscot. The walls and ceiling are of plaster. The coved ceiling has denticulated molding. The building retains its original wood vestibule and trim and there is a green marble arch in the lobby. Alterations include a modern glass divider to separate portions of the lobby and modern lighting fixtures. Overall, the building retains a high level of architectural integrity.

**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 2 Two Rivers Post Office, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin

Statement of Significance

The Two Rivers Post Office is an intact example of a Federal post office in the context of the "United States Post Office Construction from 1913 to 1943, State of Wisconsin – Milwaukee District" Multiple Property Nomination.

The Two Rivers Post Office is being nominated under Criterion C for Architecture. The 1933 building is locally significant as an example of the Georgian Revival style applied to a public building.

Historic Context

This building is the first federally owned post office in Two Rivers. Prior to its construction in 1933, postal functions were carried out at a variety of locations depending on the local postmaster. Postal service in Two Rivers began in 1848 and the first Postmaster was Henry A. Tefft.¹

This post office was one of a series constructed in Wisconsin by the federal Public Works Administration in the 1930s. Built in 1933, it was one of the very first post offices built during the Roosevelt administration's Depression-era public works relief projects. The history of post office construction in Wisconsin in this period and under these programs is documented in the above-referenced multiple property nomination form.

The Two Rivers Post Office is one of a few in Wisconsin to have the name of a local architect attached to its construction. George Schley and Sons was a Milwaukee architectural firm specializing in period revival designs, mostly domestic, in the 1920s and 1930s. However, the Two Rivers Post Office is similar to the 1932 Waupun Post Office, which is credited to the Office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury. A comparison of the two examples indicates the change in federal building practices between 1932 and 1933 and the impact of the Public Works Administration. The Waupun example is more elaborate and makes more use of stonework. By comparison, the Two Rivers Post Office indicates increasing government austerity in its building designs and practices. Stylistically, the greater simplification and austerity of materials and ornamentation allies the Two Rivers Post Office with the Georgian Revival Style, while the post office in Waupun is more closely associated with the Neo-Classical Revival.

Significance

The Two Rivers Post Office meets the registration requirement for a Federally owned post office as specified in the multiple property nomination for post office construction in Wisconsin from 1913 to 1943. The building is significant under Criterion C for Architecture.

¹ Louis Falge, History of Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, vol. 1 (Chicago: 1912), 420.

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Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 3 Two Rivers Post Office, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin

The 1933 Two Rivers Post Office is a locally significant example of the Georgian Revival. Stylistic elements of the style include quoins, a classical cornice, a hipped roof, a balustraded parapet, the use of double hung, multi-paned windows, and the use of Flemish bond. The Two Rivers example is grander than many of the other Georgian Revival post offices constructed in Wisconsin in the 1930s. This one is larger and has a higher degree of ornamentation, including the stone entablature and cornice, and the full story pilasters of its central section. However, as noted above, it is less elaborate than those examples built shortly before.

The exterior of the building with its decorative features remains intact. The interior, including the terrazzo floor, marble wainscot, wood trim, vestibule, marble arch, and cove ceiling are also original. The building retains a high level of architectural integrity. In addition, the Wisconsin architectural inventory does not include any other examples of this style in the city of Two Rivers. In conclusion, the Two Rivers Post Office is eligible under Criterion C as a locally significant example of the Georgian Revival applied to a larger public building.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 9, 10 Page 4 Two Rivers Post Office, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin

9. Major Bibliographic References

The following resources were consulted in addition to those included in the multiple property nomination for post offices in Wisconsin from 1913 to 1943:

Falge, Louis. History of Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, vol. 1. Chicago: 1912.

Reconnaissance Files. State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Two Rivers Post Office. Building Cornerstone.

Woodson, Leigh Yankey. Wisconsin's New Deal Art. Museum, 1980.

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of this property corresponds to the following legal description: Original plat, lots 8, 9 and 10, block 50.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the Two Rivers Post Office, parking lot, and surrounding yard. This is the limit of the original property holding.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section photos Page 5 Two Rivers Post Office, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin

Photos

The following information applies to all of the photographs:

Two Rivers Post Office
Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin
Photographed by Joseph Jurkiewicz, 1993
Negatives in the possession of HNTB, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

1. General view.
2. Interior view of lobby.
3. Detail of cartouche over front door and window.
4. Cornerstone.
5. Side elevation, facing east.
6. Rear elevation, facing southwest.
7. Side elevation, facing northwest.
8. Front elevation, facing north.