



United States Department of Interior
National Park Service

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 Marshfield Post Office
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number	202 South Chestnut Avenue	N/A	not for publication
city or town	Marshfield	N/A	vicinity
state	Wisconsin	code	WI
county	Wood	code	141
zip code	54449		

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. Cook
Signature of commenting official/Title

July 26, 2000
Date

Deputy SHPO-WI
State or Federal agency and bureau

Marshfield Post Office

Wood 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 F. Beall

10/24/00

Beall

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as
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.)

U.S. 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)

Classical Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation Limestone

walls

Limestone

Brick

roof

Asphalt shingle

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 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

1930

Significant Dates

1930

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Wetmore, James

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Marshfield Post Office
Name of Property

Wood County
County and State

Wisconsin

9. Major Bibliographic References

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

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

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:

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less Than One Acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	15	7/2/3/8/4/0	4/9/4/9/5/6/0	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		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	Charles W. Causier, AICP & Joseph G. Jurkiewicz, AIA	date	12-29-93
organization	HNTB	telephone	414-359-2300
street & number	11270 West Park Place	zip code	53224
city or town	Milwaukee	state	Wisconsin

Marshfield Post Office
Name of Property

Wood 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 Marshfield Post Office
Wood County, Wisconsin

Narrative Description

The Marshfield Post Office is a one-story, limestone and brick building constructed in 1930 in a simplified Neo-Classical Revival style. The post office is located on one of the major streets in the business and commercial district of Marshfield, Wisconsin.

The front façade consists of a three-bay central pavilion with single bay units on the sides. The central portion is brought forward and is further emphasized by a concentration of decorative detail. The middle bay contains a recessed door with a transom window above. The area between the door and the transom is decorated with a classically inspired frieze and cornice. On either side of the entrance are windows with transoms. Paired pilasters frame the windows and doors. The pilasters support a frieze and a denticulated cornice. The cornice wraps around the perimeter of the original building. Above the cornice is a parapet. Above the door the parapet steps up slightly and contains a carved eagle. A wide flight of granite stairs leads to a landing before the front door.

The single bays on either side of the main pavilion each contain one window. The windows have stone lintels. In the area of the transom is a carved panel with a large rosette at its center. The side wings are framed in stone, but the central wall portion is of red brick. The first bay of the side elevations is treated in the same fashion. The original windows throughout the main portion of the building have been replaced with aluminum framed units within the original opening. Likewise, the doors are aluminum replacements dating from ca. 1960.

The building cornerstone notes: "A.W. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, James A. Wetmore, Acting Supervising Architect, 1930."

A lower, one-story addition was constructed to the rear of the building ca. 1960. It was designed to complement the original building. The addition is of red brick and its windows are approximately the same size and dimension of the original openings. A large loading dock is located at the rear. The addition is clearly not a part of the main building and does not detract from the integrity of the original portion of the post office building.

The interior lobby of the building has its original terrazzo floor and marble wainscot. The walls and ceiling are of plaster. There is some original wood trim in the lobby, but no other features of note. A glass dividing wall has also been added to separate postal functions.

The building is in good condition. With the exception of the replacement doors and windows, the façade of the Marshfield Post Office retains a high degree of architectural integrity.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 2 Marshfield Post Office
Wood County, Wisconsin

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Marshfield Post Office is evaluated in the context of the multiple property nomination "United States Post Office Construction from 1913 to 1943, State of Wisconsin - Milwaukee District." Specifically, the Marshfield Post Office is an example of those facilities constructed in the period after the adoption of the McAdoo Classification System, but before the massive construction program of the Roosevelt era. The Marshfield Post Office is nominated under Criterion C for architecture as a locally significant example of the Neo-Classical Revival style.

Historic Context

This building is the first federally owned post office in Marshfield, Wisconsin. Prior to its construction, postal business was conducted in numerous locations depending on the current postmaster. The first post office in Marshfield was established in 1872 with Louis River as the first postmaster.¹

As part of the larger context of federally owned post offices in Wisconsin, the Marshfield Post Office represents a Class "C" facility under the McAdoo Classification System. Stylistic and construction issues were standardized and used in a series of facilities of the same class across the country. The McAdoo system and the character of the building constructed using the system are discussed in the multiple property nomination.

Significance

The Marshfield Post Office is considered eligible for listing by meeting the registration requirement for federally owned post offices as specified in the multiple property nomination for post office construction in Wisconsin between 1913 and 1943.

This resource is considered eligible under Criterion C, Architecture, as an excellent local example of the NeoClassical Revival style of architecture as applied to a public building. The Neo-Classical Revival style was a popular choice for public and institutional buildings in the early twentieth century. Elements of the style seen in this example are the parapeted roofline, the use of square headed versus arched openings, and the smooth stonework of the central pavilion. At the post office, the giant order Roman columns have been translated to Doric pilasters. The pairing of the pilasters is a departure from the Neo-Classical style, which preferred single columns. The use of varied wall claddings is also atypical of high style examples of this style.

¹ George O. Jones and Norman S. McVean, History of Wood County, Wisconsin (Minneapolis: 1923).

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 3 Marshfield Post Office
Wood County, Wisconsin

In conclusion, the Marshfield Post office is an example of the Neo-Classical Revival style used by the Treasury Department designers for a mid-size post office in the 1930s. The design displays signature aspects of the style, while simplifying or eliminating others for cost containment, such as the use of brick infill for wall areas. With the exception of the window replacements, the exterior of the building retains a high degree of architectural integrity and is a good, local example of the Neo-Classical Revival style.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 9/10 Page 4 Marshfield Post Office
Wood County, Wisconsin

9. Major Bibliographic References

The following sources were consulted in addition to those listed in the multiple property nomination:

Marshfield Post Office. Building cornerstone.

Jones, George O. Norman S. McVean. History of Wood County, Wisconsin. Minneapolis: 1923.

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

This property corresponds to the following legal description: City of Marshfield. Lot 3, except west 6 feet, thereof and all of lots 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, block O.

Boundary Justification

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section photos Page 5

Marshfield Post Office
Wood County, Wisconsin

Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Marshfield Post Office

Marshfield, Wood County, Wisconsin

Photo by Joseph Jurkiewicz, 1993

Negatives in the possession of HNTB, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

1. Building cornerstone.
2. Interior view, lobby.
3. Interior view, lobby.
4. Façade detail.
5. Rear elevation, looking northeast.
6. Side elevation, looking east.
7. Façade detail.
8. Façade detail.
9. Façade detail.
10. Front elevation, looking southwest.