

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Oklahoma
COUNTY: Oklahoma
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE AUG 30 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Post Office, Courthouse and Federal Office Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Robinson at 3rd

CITY OR TOWN:
Oklahoma City

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
5 - John Jarman

STATE: **Oklahoma** CODE **040** COUNTY: **Oklahoma** CODE **109**

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 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) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. AGENCY

General Services Administration

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
Region - 7

CITY OR TOWN:
Fort Worth

STREET AND NUMBER:
819 Taylor Street

STATE: **Texas** CODE **048**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Oklahoma County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Oklahoma City

STATE: **Oklahoma** CODE **040**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Inventory of Historic Places, GSA

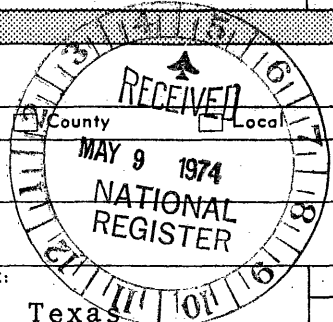
DATE OF SURVEY: **July 25, 1972** Federal State

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Fort Worth Regional Office, GSA

STREET AND NUMBER:
819 Taylor Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Fort Worth

STATE: **Texas** CODE **048**



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER:

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The post office building in Oklahoma City, as it appears today, represents three periods of construction. The original structure which was completed in 1912 was built on a site of land at the northwest corner of Robinson and 3rd Streets. The light gray limestone structure, three stories tall, is nine bays wide facing onto Robinson Street with main entrance steps landing at a three pedimented doorway set into arched openings which repeat as large windows on the first floor in each of the other bays. The second story windows are rectangular openings, each with a shallow stone balcony.

The bays across the major facades are defined by two story circular engaged corinthian columns and the corners of the building are squared engaged columns flanked by engaged round columns on each facade. The plain entablature and shallow cornice are capped by a simple urn balustrade.

The main floor of the original structure was used for postal facilities and the second floor which extended in ceiling height a story and a half contained the elaborately detailed panelled court room.

The original structure, designed in the Beaux-Arts Classicism architectural style, is characterized by engaged columns and flat pilasters defining the colonade rhythm. Between the pilasters on the first floor are tall rectangular windows with transom above. On the second floor are the shorter windows with a flat baluster. The second and third floors surround a light court which becomes a skylight for the first floor.

In 1919 the second addition was made to the building which created the main entrance on 3rd Street at the rear of the existing building but central to the block. The three new entrance doorways were placed between pilasters repeating the large arch of the openings of the original 1912 structure.

Finally in 1937 the west half of the structure was completed as was the addition of a nine story central tower. The three story addition to Hadley Street repeats the flat pilaster rhythm and also the slight projection of the three bays at the corners with the tall arched openings. The west facade continues with the flat pilasters with arched openings between. No major entrance is on this facade. The new loading dock is incorporated into the west wing on the north facade.

The nine story tower which is over the 1919 addition departs from the original architectural style and is representative of the high rise Modernistic style exhibiting strong verticality of plain surfaces capped with low relief decorative

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Oklahoma	
COUNTY Oklahoma	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	AUG 30 1974

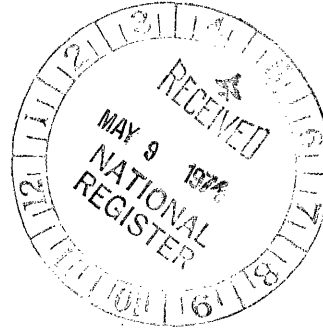
(Number all entries)

7. Description Continued

ornament.

The entire structure is of light gray tooled and dressed limestone set on a granite base with red roof tile over the three story portions. All windows are now aluminum, double hung on the first floors and casement elsewhere.

The building occupies the entire half block between Hadley and 3rd Streets facing onto Robinson and is approximately 127' x 364'.



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) 1912, 1919, 1937

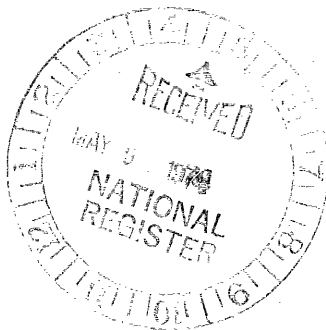
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input 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

The post office building which was constructed in the capitol city of the new state of Oklahoma was the first federal building to be constructed in the state. The original structure is an excellent example of the Beaux-Arts Classicism architectural style and the elaborately panelled court room contributes significantly to the architectural importance of the structure. Subsequent additions have carefully reflected the original design elements and even the nine story tower is a good example of the Modernistic architectural style with its bold verticality and plain surfaces ornamented profusely at the top and under the windows.

Besides being architecturally significant in design, the building was also the first truly monumental structure in the city and because of its central city location continues to serve as a strong pivotal element of the downtown area which is rapidly expanding. Its presence in the city helps to trace the growth of the downtown area and it remains an important monumental structure.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Inventory Form of Historic Places, General Services Administration, Fort Worth, Texas
2. Oklahoma Historic Society Archives, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

CD
14/
634560
3926100

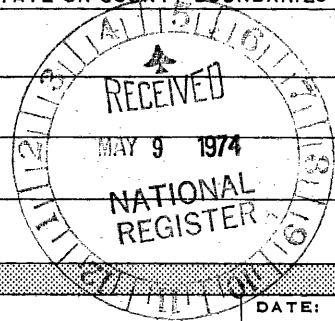
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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	° ' "	° ' "	35	28	16	97	31	0
NE	° ' "	° ' "						
SE	° ' "	° ' "						
SW	° ' "	° ' "						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Wayne Bell, AIA** DATE: **8/30/73**

BUSINESS ADDRESS: **P.O. Drawer B**

STREET AND NUMBER: _____ PHONE: **512-476-3033**

CITY OR TOWN: **Austin** STATE: **Texas** CODE: **048**

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

Yes
 No
 None

[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

[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: **8/30/74**

ATTEST:

[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: **8.30.74**