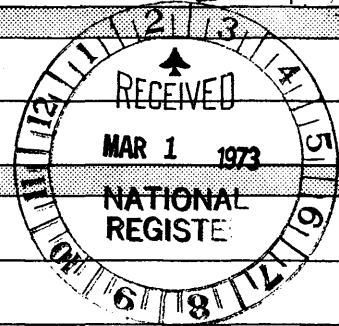


Hon. Peter N. Kyros

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maine	
COUNTY: York	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 7 1973



1. NAME

COMMON:  
U.S. Post Office, Biddeford, Maine

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
U.S. Post Office, Biddeford G. Maine - 570

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
35 Washington Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Biddeford

STATE: Maine CODE: 23 COUNTY: York CODE: 031

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	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>Unoccupied</u>	<u>G.S.A.</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<u>Surplus Prop.</u>	<u>10/23/70</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
General Services Administration (U.S. Government)

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Region 1 - Post Office & Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Boston STATE: Massachusetts

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
York County Courthouse, York County Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Alfred STATE: Maine CODE: 23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
None

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

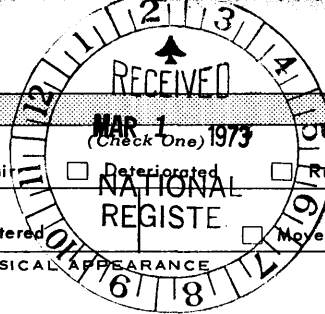
STATE: Maine

COUNTY: York

ENTRY NUMBER: MAY 7 1973

DATE: MAY 7 1973

FOR NPS USE ONLY



7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" 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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

As originally designed and built, the United States Post Office, Biddeford, Maine is an excellent example of period architecture utilizing masonry construction of brick with granolithic quoins, lintels and arches. The one story and basement structure with masonry load bearing walls on poured concrete foundations and footings, utilizing steel and concrete-formed beams and columns of high load bearing capacity. The metal and composition built up roofing is supported by concrete slab on steel framing and rafters. The first floor of the structure is likewise concrete slab on steel and concrete formed beam and column construction.

The original tin roof was replaced with copper in 1939. The main entrance and secondary entrance were also remodeled in 1939 to eliminate the original revolving doors and to replace them with swinging entrance doors, vestibule and vestibule doors. The original rear mailing vestibule was also replaced with an enclosed loading platform to facilitate receipt and dispatch of mail by truck. The main structure remains basically as designed when originally built in 1914.

The main facade facing Washington Street features a detailed brick and granolithic cornice, together with an ornamental granolithic balustraded and posted rail above, which runs completely around the perimeter of the building. The circle headed transom main entrance includes a keyed granolithic arch, dentil transom bar and pilastered entrance doors which remain as originally built with the exception of the swinging doors which replaced the original revolving doors. The main entrance is flanked by two circle headed transom windows with keyed granolithic arches, dentil transom bars, over triple double-hung small lighted windows. These are further flanked by single square headed transom windows with keyed granolithic lintels, transom bars, over single double hung small lighted windows.

The right side or Federal Street elevation features a side entrance with a square headed transom with keyed granolithic lintel, transom bar, over swinging entrance doors. Adjacent are four single square headed windows with keyed granolithic lintel, transom bar, over small lighted windows. The rear elevation features an elliptical headed rear entrance with transom and keyed granolithic lintel, transom bar, over fixed sash and swinging doors. The rear entrance is flanked by two elliptical headed transom windows with keyed granolithic lintels, transom bars, over fixed sash over transom bars over double-hung windows. These are further flanked by single square headed transom windows with keyed granolithic lintels, transom bars, over single double-hung small lighted windows.

The minor changes which have been made to the Post Office Building are compatible to the original design and architecture of the structure. The interior of the building exhibits little of historic importance, however. The exterior is typical of the excellent composition of federal buildings of the early Twentieth Century of which this was a forerunner. Exterior condition good.

**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) 1914

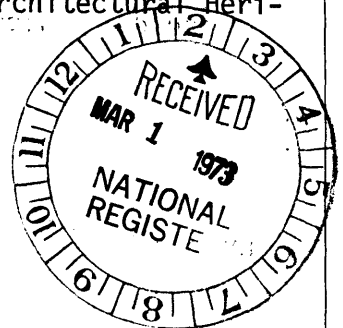
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal                | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | <u>Forerunner and</u>                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture               | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | <u>blueprint for</u>                                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape              | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | <u>Post Offices</u>                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | <u>built in the</u>                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | <u>early Twentieth</u>                              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | <u>Century</u>                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation              |   |  |   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

1 The United States Post Office, Biddeford, Maine stands as the photo-type of quality federal buildings erected during the early part of the Twentieth Century. The building remains a classic example of period architecture and was completed in 1914 at a cost of \$90,000. The design and structure served as blueprint for post offices built during the 1920's and 1930's. The property was completely designed and erected from plans prepared by the Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department, United States Government. During the planning period from 1910 until the execution of the construction of the building, James Knox Taylor and other architects served the Treasury Department in the capacity of Supervising Architect. The modest 80 foot by 65 foot building encloses a total floor area of approximately five thousand three hundred square feet. A loading dock, containing four hundred fifty square feet of floor space, replaced the original rear vestibule entrance in 1939. 4

The institutional quality of the exterior of the building lends to its adaption for use as a municipal center and hub for the proposed civic center for the City of Biddeford. This use would make possible the preservation for posterity of an excellent property with a timeless esthetic quality which might otherwise be lost to our nation's Architectural Heritage.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

G.S.A. Region 1 - Post Office & Courthouse, Boston, Mass.  
 Assessor's Office, City of Biddeford, 205 Main Street, Biddeford, Maine.

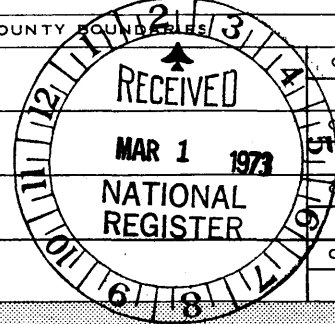
**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	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		
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	43°	29' 30"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"		
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"		
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 0.45 Acres +

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Gilbert R. Boucher, Mayor and David W. Abbott, Assessor

ORGANIZATION: City of Biddeford DATE: Dec. 29, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: 205 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Biddeford STATE: Maine CODE: 23

**12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: James H. Mundy  
 Title: State Liaison Officer  
 Date: 2-26-73

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert A. Utley  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 5/7/73  
 ATTEST: [Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 Date: 5-3-73