NPS Form 10-900 (January 1992) Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

**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 Clintonville Post Office historic name N/A other names/site number 2. Location street & number 2 North Main Street N/A not for publication Clintonville N/A vicinity city or town Wisconsin WI Waupaca 135 54929 code zip code state county code

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets \_ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_ nationally statewide X locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property K meets \_ does not meet the National Register criteria. (\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title

July 26, 2000

Deputy SHPO-WI State or Federal agency and bureau

| Clintonville Post Office  |  | Waupaca County   | Wisconsin      |
|---|--|--|----------------|
| Name of Property  |  | County and State   |                |
| 4. National Park Servic   | ce Certification                             |  |                |
| I hereby certify that the property is:<br>entered in the National Register.<br>See continuation sheet.<br>determined eligible for the<br>National Register.<br>See continuation sheet.<br>determined not eligible for the | Eda  | Af Beall   | 6/24/0         |
| National Register.<br>See continuation sheet.<br>removed from the National<br>Register.<br>other, (explain:)  | A  | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·  |                |
|   | Signature of th                              | e Keeper   | Date of Action |
| 5. Classification   | V  |  |                |
| Ownership of Property<br>(check as many boxes as<br>as apply)   | Category of Property<br>(Check only one box) | Number of Resources within F<br>(Do not include previously listed<br>in the count)         |                |
| private   | X building(s)                                | •  | ributing       |
| public-local<br>public-State  | district<br>structure                        | <u>l</u> <u>0 buildin</u>  |                |
| X public-Federal  | site   | sites  | tures          |
|   | object                                       | obje   |                |
|   |  | 1 0 total  |                |
| Name of related multiple pr<br>(Enter "N/A" if property not p<br>listing.)  |  | Number of contributing resou<br>is previously listed in the Nation                         |                |
| United States Post Office Cor   | struction, 1913-1943                         | 0  |                |
| State of Wisconsin – Milwaul  |  |  |                |
| 6. Function or Use  |  |  |                |
| Historic Functions<br>(Enter categories from instru<br>Government/Post Office   | actions)                                     | <b>Current Functions</b><br>(Enter categories from instructions)<br>Government/Post Office |                |
| 7. Description  |  |  |                |
|   |  |  |                |
| Architectural Classification  |  | Materials  |                |
| (Enter categories from instructions)  |  | (Enter categories from instructions)<br>Foundation brick                                   |                |
| Modern Movement   |  | walls brick  |                |
| <u></u>   | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·        |  |                |
|   |  | roof   |                |
|   |  | other terra cotta  |                |

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

| Name of Property   | County and State  |           |
|--|---|-----------|
| 8. Statement of Significance   |   |           |
| ······································   |   |           |
| Applicable National Register Criteria<br>Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria<br>qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)   | Areas of Significance<br>(Enter categories from instructions)<br>Architecture |           |
| A Property is associated with events that have<br>made a significant contribution to the broad<br>patterns of our history.   |   |           |
| B Property is associated with the lives<br>of persons significant in our past.   |   | . <u></u> |
| C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics  | Period of Significance  |           |
| of a type, period, or method of construction<br>or represents the work of a master, or possesses<br>high artistic values, or represents a significant<br>and distinguishable entity whose components | 1935  |           |
| lack individual distinction.   |   | <u></u>   |
| _ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield,   | Significant Dates   |           |
| information important in prehistory or history.  | 1935  |           |
| Criteria Considerations<br>Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)  |   |           |
| Property is:   | Significant Person  |           |
| A owned by a religious institution or  | (Complete if Criterion B is marked)   |           |
| used for religious purposes.   | N/A   |           |
| _B removed from its original location.   |   |           |
| _C a birthplace or grave.  | Cultural Affiliation  |           |
| _D a cemetery.   | N/A   |           |
| E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.  |   |           |
| F a commemorative property.  | Architect/Builder   |           |
| _ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.   | Simon, Louis A.<br>Von Nerta, George  |           |
|  | voli inclia, Ocolge   |           |
| Narrative Statement of Significance  |   |           |

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Waupaca 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 #

#### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less Than One Acre

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

| 1 | 16   | 3/6/0/4/1/0 | 4/9/4/2/3/9/0 | 3 |                 |                         |               |  |
|---|------|-------------|---------------|---|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------|--|
|   | Zone | Easting     | Northing      | _ | Zone            | Easting                 | Northing      |  |
| 2 |      |             |               | 4 |                 |                         |               |  |
|   | Zone | Easting     | Northing      |   | Zone<br>See Cor | Easting<br>tinuation SI | Northing neet |  |

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 and Re | obert J. Gosse, . | Architect I |           |              |
| organization         | HNTB                            |                   |             | date      | 12-29-93     |
| street & number      | 11270 West Park Place           |                   |             | telephone | 414-359-2300 |
| city or town         | Milwaukee                       | state             | Wisconsin   | zip code  | 53224        |

## Primary location of additional data:

- $\underline{X}$  State Historic Preservation Office
- \_ Other State Agency
- \_ Federal Agency
- \_ Local government
- \_ University
- \_ Other
  - Name of repository:

| Berlin Post Office | Green Lake County | Wisconsin |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Name of Property   | County and State  |           |

| Additional Do        | cumentation  |   |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Submit the following | ng items with the completed form:  | - |
| Continuation Sheets  |  |   |
| Maps                 | A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.<br>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 FPC                  | ).)               | ·            |           |              |  |  |
| name/title         | John S. Sorenson, program r                    | nanager, 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.

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1 Clintonville Post Office Waupaca County, Wisconsin

#### **Description:**

The Clintonville Post Office is located on the edge of the downtown business district of Clintonville, in northeastern Waupaca County, Wisconsin. Built in 1935, it is a one-story building of brown brick and terra cotta detailing. The building is loosely Art Deco in its styling, with elements of classical design in the composition of elements and in the organization of the facade. The cornerstone at the front right corner of the building reads: "Henry Morgenthau, James A. Farley, Postmaster General, Louis A. Simon, Supervising Architect, George O. Von Nerta, Supervising Engineer, 1935."

The front façade is a three-part composition; this tri-partite organization is common to many of the post offices in the related multiple-property nomination. In this example, the central pavilion is pulled forward. The building sits on a raised basement faced with brick and a large terra cotta water table. The post office has a flat roof with a terra cotta cornice and a terra cotta belt course several feet below. In the central pavilion, the brickwork between the cornice and belt course is laid in alternating bands of recessed courses marking the distinction between the central and side pavilions.

The plan of the building is irregular with the public lobby and entrance on the Main Street façade. The elevation is organized symmetrically about the entry doors. The double entry doors have a five light transom above. To either side of the doors are sidelights. The door, transom and sidelights are contained within a terra cotta frame. The stepped vertical planes of the frame, on the outer edge and between the doors and sidelights, give an impression of classical fluting. Above the entrance, the words "United States Post Office –Clintonville Wis (sic)" are impressed in the rectangular terra cotta blocks. This large central panel joins the lintels above the sidelights. The lintels each have three rosettes. A flight of stairs, the width of the framed entrance, rises from the sidewalk level.

Each of the side pavilions contains an eight over twelve double hung window. The lintel above the window is a recessed terra cotta panel. The windows are set within a shallow recess created by gently stepping back vertical bands of masonry. The same window and pavilion treatments are used on the side elevations. The series of five recessed windows in each of the central pavilions on these facades gives an impression of pilaster strips. The rear of the building is utilitarian; it contains a two-story extension with a loading dock.

The interior lobby has its original tile floor and wainscot. The walls are plaster and the ceiling has new acoustical tile. Unlike many other post offices of this era, the Clintonville Post Office does not include federally sponsored artwork on the interior.

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## United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <sup>8</sup> Page 2 Clintonville Post Office Waupaca County, Wisconsin

#### Narrative Statement of Significance

The Clintonville Post Office is an intact example of a Federal post Office evaluated in the context of "United States Post Office Construction from 1913 to 1940, State of Wisconsin-Milwaukee District," as detailed in the multiple property nomination. The building has retained its architectural integrity and it meets the criteria for eligibility for Architecture.

#### Historic Context

This building is the first federally owned post office in Clintonville.<sup>1</sup> Prior to its construction, postal services were conducted in various locations selected by a series of local postmasters. Postal service in Clintonville dates from 1852 and the first Postmaster was U.P. Clinton.<sup>2</sup> This post office building was one of several constructed in Wisconsin by the federal Public Works Administration in the 1930s. The history of post office construction in this period is explained in the above-reference multiple property form. This is the only post office of this period within the study area not to include some federally funded artwork on the interior. Begun in 1935, the post office opened to the public in June of 1936.

### **Significance**

The Clintonville Post Office is eligible for inclusion in the NRHP as meeting the registration requirements for a federally owned Post Office as specified in the multiple property nomination – United States Post Office Construction from 1913-1943, State of Wisconsin – Milwaukee District.

The building meets criterion C, Architecture, as an example of the influence of Art Deco on a small-scale public building. A linear composition, stylized decoration, and often a vertical emphasis characterize high style Art Deco. In this example, elements of classical design are reduced or simplified to present a rigid, geometric composition. The contrast of the light terra cotta against the brown brick reinforces the linearity of the composition. The embellishment around the front doors gives this small building prominence and reinforces the symmetry of the design. This building further demonstrated how a variety of stylistic attributes were applied to a fairly standard plan and elevation composition. This example received ornamentation rendering it Art Deco in appearance, while others are examples of the Colonial Revival or stripped utilitarian designs.

The Clintonville Post Office is further significant locally as an example of the Art Deco style in the community. The Wisconsin architectural inventory did not contain any other examples of the style on a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Nicholas D. Diedrich and John Britten Gehl, <u>History of Clintonville</u>, Wisconsin (1937), np.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> John M. Ware, <u>A Standard History of Waupaca County, Wisconsin</u> (Chicago: 1917), 292.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 3 Clintonville Post Office Waupaca County, Wisconsin

public or commercial building. The majority of the buildings in the nearby commercial district are one and two-story, brick, commercial vernacular buildings dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

#### **Conclusion**

The exterior of the Clintonville Post Office building retains a high degree of integrity. Also noteworthy is the largely intact lobby with its terrazzo floor and marble wainscot. The original wood vestibule and trim remain. The Clintonville Post Office remains a prominent building on the city's main street, at the fringe of the downtown business/commercial district. As a highly intact example of an Art Deco inspired, small post office, this building retains the level of integrity necessary to render it eligible for listing under Criterion C in the area of Architecture.

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

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 9/10/ Page 4

Clintonville Post Office Waupaca County, Wisconsin

#### 9. Major Bibliographic References

Clintonville Post Office. Cornerstone.

Diedrich, Nicholas and John Britten Gehl. History of Clintonville, Wisconsin. 1937.

Ware, John M. A Standard History of Waupaca County, Wisconsin, Chicago: 1917.

#### **10. Geographical Data**

#### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The building corresponds to the following legal description: South 18.78 feet of lot 14 except east 16 feet, and lot 15 block 1 except east 16 feet, of Clinton and Ways addition to City of Clintonville.

#### **Boundary Justification**

The boundary encompasses the Clintonville Post Office, parking lot, and surrounding yard which is the limit of the original property holding.

#### **Additional Documentation**

#### **Photographs:**

The following information is the same for all photographs: Clintonville Post Office Waupaca County, Wisconsin Photographed by Joseph Jurkiewicz 1993 Negatives located at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin

- 1. Side elevation, facing southwest
- 2. Detail of entrance
- 3. Detail of cornerstone
- 4. Back elevation, facing northwest
- 5. Side elevation, facing northeast
- 6. Front elevation, facing southeast