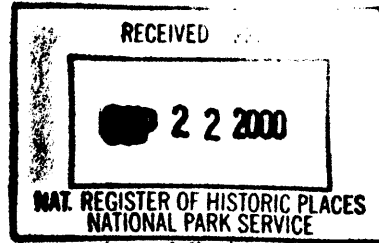


1252

**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 Waupaca Post Office  
other names/site number N/A

**2. Location**

street & number	306 South Main Street	N/A	not for publication
city or town	Waupaca	N/A	vicinity
state Wisconsin	code WI	county Waupaca	code 135
			zip code 54981

**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. Corning*  
Signature of commenting official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date *July 26, 2000*

*Deputy SHPO - WI*  
State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

Waupaca Post Office

Waupaca 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:)

*Edouard H. Beall*

*10/24/00*

*for*

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.)

US 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 Granite

walls Brick

roof Metal

other Limestone

**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)

Art  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1940  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1940  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**  
(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Simon, Louis A.  
Melick, Neal A.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Statement of Significance**  
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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**

Acreege of Property Less Than One Acre

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

1	16	3/3/3/8/2/0	4/9/1/3/2/0	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**

<b>name/title</b>	Charles W. Causier, AICP & Joseph G. Jurkiewicz, AIA			<b>date</b>	12-29-93
<b>organization</b>	HNTB			<b>telephone</b>	414-359-2300
<b>street &amp; number</b>	11270 West Park Place			<b>city or town</b>	Milwaukee
<b>city or town</b>	Milwaukee	<b>state</b>	Wisconsin	<b>zip code</b>	53224

Waupaca Post Office  
Name of Property

Waupaca 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.)

<b>name/title</b>	John S. Sorenson, Program manager, Historic Preservation		
<b>organization</b>	US Postal Service, Customer Service Facilities		
<b>street&amp;number</b>	475 L'Enfant Plaza	<b>telephone</b>	202-268-3107
<b>city or town</b>	Washington	<b>state</b>	DC
		<b>zip code</b>	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      Waupaca Post Office, Waupaca County, Wisconsin

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**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:**

The Waupaca Post Office is a one-story building constructed in a simplified Classical Revival style in 1938.<sup>1</sup> The building is of reddish brown brick with the central portion of the façade in limestone. The building rests on a granite foundation with an elevated basement. The front, main portion of the building has a metal hipped roof. The post office is located on the fringe of the downtown business district, adjacent to a residential area, in Waupaca, Wisconsin.

The front elevation is organized symmetrically about the entrance. A wide flight of stairs, with pole lamps on either side, leads from the sidewalk to the front doors. The central portion of the façade steps back from the main plane and is executed in limestone. Four massive piers with capitols rise from the level of the foundation and support the limestone fascia that runs around the building. The text "United States Post Office Waupaca Wisconsin" is carved into the front center of the fascia. Above the fascia is a small, wood cornice that also wraps around the building. In the central section of the façade, between the two central piers, is a set of double doors with a ten light transom above. A 15-over-15 light, double hung window is located between each of the two outer piers. The outer portions of the front façade are sheathed in brick. Each of the side sections contains a six-over-six light window. The windows have limestone sills, but no lintels. A basement window is located at the foundation level below the outer windows.

A cornerstone at the bottom front right of the building is inscribed: "Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury, James A. Farley, Postmaster General, Louis A. Simon, Supervising Architect, Neal A. Melick, Supervising Engineer, 1938."

The side elevations are more utilitarian in nature. They use the smaller, six-over-six windows or two-over-two windows set within a larger brick frame. The back portion of the building is set slightly back from the lobby section. While the front portion has a hipped roof, the roof on the back portion is flat.

The building has had several alterations. A new loading dock has been added to the rear of the building. In the 1960s a one-story addition was built to the left of the main block. This addition uses compatible materials and is set back from the street. These alterations do not affect the overall integrity of the building.

The interior lobby retains many of its original features. The floors are terrazzo and the wainscot is marble. The walls and ceiling are plaster; however, modern lighting fixtures have been added. The lobby also retains its original wood trim and vestibule.

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<sup>1</sup> Waupaca Post Office, building cornerstone.

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

Section 7      Page 2      Waupaca Post Office, Waupaca County, Wisconsin

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Above the door to the postmaster's office is a mural by artist Raymond Redell. Redell painted the mural, titled "Wisconsin Countryside," in 1940.<sup>2</sup> The painting depicts a typical, rural Wisconsin scene of farmland and rolling hills. At the center of the composition is a farmstead. The area in the foreground depicts the hay harvest with haystacks being loaded on a wagon. At the farmstead, a group of workers is loading the hay into the hayloft. The mural is in good condition.

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<sup>2</sup> Leigh Yankey Woodson, Wisconsin's New Deal Art (1980).

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 3 Waupaca Post Office, Waupaca County, Wisconsin

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**NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Waupaca Post Office is an example of a federal post office that retains a high level of architectural integrity as a setting for an intact public works mural. It is eligible for listing under Criterion C – Art, as specified in the multiple property nomination “United States Post Office Construction from 1913 to 1943, State of Wisconsin – Milwaukee District.”

**Historic Context**

This building is the first federally owned post office in Waupaca, Wisconsin. Prior to its construction, the postal functions for the community were located in a variety of locations determined by each successive postmaster.<sup>3</sup> The Waupaca Post Office was one of a series built in the state during the years of the Public Works Administration. The history of post office construction in Wisconsin during this era is discussed in the multiple property nomination. The historic context for the federally commissioned murals is also included.

**Significance**

The Waupaca Post Office is eligible for listing in the National Register by meeting the registration requirements for a federally owned post office as specified in the multiple property nomination for post office construction in Wisconsin from 1913 to 1943. The Waupaca Post office is nominated under Criterion C for Art.

Raymond Redell completed the mural “Wisconsin Countryside” in 1940. The mural is an example of the Fine Arts Section preference for local themes painted in a realistic matter. The Waupaca mural provides a view of the Wisconsin countryside and depicts it as a rich and fertile agricultural area. The fields are covered with numerous haystacks. The harvested hay is overflowing the wagon transporting it and the barn where it is stored. Dairy cows are seen grazing on the opposite side of the road. The depicted farmstead has a sizable house and a number of outbuildings. The choice of subject would have been familiar and uplifting to the residents of the area. Here, as in many mural examples, the artist provided an idealized view of the surrounding area and a depiction of agricultural abundance.

In 1934 Raymond Redell was one of the artists enrolled in a Civilian Conservation Corps camp, employed to make a pictorial record of the camp. He later became a staff artist for the Milwaukee Journal and was known for his landscape, genre and portrait work for the newspaper. The Waupaca work is one of two Wisconsin themes painted by Redell. The second, a 1938 mural titled “Harvesting Cranberries,” is located

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<sup>3</sup> John M. Ware, A Standard History of Waupaca county, Wisconsin (Chicago: 1917).



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 4 Waupaca Post Office, Waupaca County, Wisconsin

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in the lobby of the Berlin, Wisconsin, Post Office. He also painted "Early Middlebury Mail," a mural in the Middlebury, Indiana, Post Office.<sup>4</sup>

The building retains a high level of architectural integrity, both inside and out, and provides an appropriate setting for the mural "Wisconsin Countryside" contained in the lobby.

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<sup>4</sup> Marlene Park and Gerald E. Markowitz, Democratic Vistas: Post Offices and Public Art in the New Deal (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1984), 209, 232.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section 9/10 Page 5 Waupaca Post Office, Waupaca County, Wisconsin

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**9. Major Bibliographic References**

The Following resources were consulted in addition to those included in the multiple property nomination for post offices built in Wisconsin's Milwaukee District from 1913 to 1943:

Park, Marlene and Gerald E. Markowitz. Democratic Vistas: Post Offices and Public Art in the New Deal. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1984.

State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Reconnaissance Files.

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

Waupaca Post Office. Building cornerstone.

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

**10. Geographical Data**

**Verbal Boundary Description**

This property corresponds to the following legal description: Lots 1,2,9 and 10, Block 1 of the original plat, except the west 85' of lots 9 and 10.

**Boundary Justification**

This boundary encompasses the Waupaca 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 6 Waupaca Post Office, Waupaca County, Wisconsin

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**Photographs**

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Waupaca Post Office  
Waupaca, Waupaca county, Wisconsin  
Photographs by Joseph Jurkiewicz, 1993  
Negatives in the possession of HNTB, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

1. Rear elevation, facing east.
2. Building cornerstone.
3. Building interior, lobby.
4. Mural, "Wisconsin Countryside."
5. Front façade detail, facing west.
6. General street view, facing north.
7. Front elevation, facing west.
8. Side elevation, facing south.