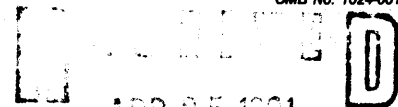


654

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Raymond Main Post Office
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 406 Duryea Street N/A not for publication
city, town Raymond N/A vicinity
state Washington code WA county Pacific code 049 zip code 98577

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		<u>0</u> sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		<u>0</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		<u>0</u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Historic U.S. Post Offices In Washington, 1893 - 1941
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.
[Signature] 1-11-90
Signature of certifying official Date
U.S. Postal Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
[Signature] 12/15/89
Signature of commenting or other official Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register. [Signature] 5/30/91
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain:)

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

U.S. Post Office

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

U.S. Post Office

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concretewalls BrickSandstoneroof Copperother Tar composition

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Raymond Main Post Office is a one-story red brick building which rests upon a raised basement platform. The building's structure consists of reinforced concrete footings, basement, and floor slab, steel framing, and brick walls. The front elevation is flat, symmetrical, and Classically-proportioned. Five bays divide the facade--two flat-arched window bays and a centered, round-arched entry bay. Sandstone and wood are used for trim details. A copper-clad hipped roof topped with a square wooden cupola covers the front portion of the building. The rear portion is covered by a flat built-up tar composition roof.

PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The front facade (north, facing Duryea Street) is horizontal in orientation and symmetrically-arranged. Five bays divide the facade--a centered entry bay with two window bays on each side. Red brick in common bond faces the basement and main floor exterior walls which are separated by a sandstone water table. Four granite steps and granite landing provide access to the main entry. Wrought-iron balustrades with integrated lamp standards flank the stairs.

The entry consists of double aluminum-framed glass-panel doors. Above the doors is an aluminum transom bar. Framing the doors, and slightly recessed from the brick wall, are fluted, flat aluminum pilasters supporting a simple wooden entablature with dentils (the aluminum covers the original wood pilasters). Within the brick segmental arch and over the entablature is a painted cast-aluminum eagle. The window bays, with stone lintels and sills, each contain double-hung wood sash with 12-over-12 lights. Terminating the first floor is a wooden frieze and dentil cornice. Sloping rearward from the cornice is a copper-clad hipped roof topped by a square wooden cupola.

The west facade (Fourth Street) is divided into three segments--the two-bay front (over which is the hipped roof), the slightly recessed three-bay center, and five-bay rear

[x] See continuation sheet

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wing. A sandstone water table and wooden frieze and cornice extend across the facade as in the front. An aluminum flashing covers the coping atop the cornice. The window bays of the front and center sections are configured identically to those of the front; the rear bay of the front section, however, has been filled with brick to form a niche. A small, vertically-aligned, four-over-four-light, double-hung, wood-sash window occupies the center of the niche. The rear wing includes a centered entry door (stepped down from grade). Framed with wooden jambs and door head, the single door is aluminum-framed glass. Except for a single fixed, four-light, wood-sash window in the northern end, there are no windows on the ground level of the wing. Five equally-spaced windows, with the center window over the entry, are at the mezzanine level. These windows are double-hung, wood sash with eight-over-eight lights. Recessed niches lie between the sills and the water table.

The front and central sections of the east facade are identical to the corresponding sections of the west. The windows are also identical to the west, except that the east contains a full-sized window rather than niche and small window. The east wall of the rear wing is recessed 21 feet from the facade line of the forward sections. A loading platform, opening to the east and extending from the rear of the center section, lies in front of the northern half of the wing (lower in height than the building). The mailing vestibule with a single metal and glass panel door is between the open platform and the building. A flat metal roof with projecting marquee covers the loading platform. The facade of the rear wing includes two mezzanine-level windows (double-hung, eight-over-eight-light, wood sash) south of the platform and three windows above the platform. Double wooden doors with six-lights in each are beneath the window next to the north end of the platform.

The rear (south) facade consists of the three-bay rear wing, blank brick wall of the mailing platform, and the single-bay central section. The water table, frieze, and cornice are detailed identically to the front and sides. As with the rear wing's side facade, the rear facade contains windows only on the mezzanine level (configured identically to side). The single window of the center's rear facade consists of double-hung, wood sash with 8-over-8 lights.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Politics/Government

Period of Significance

1940-1941

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Dates

Site acq.-1939

Const.-1940

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Simon, Louis A., Supervising Archi-

tect/Federal Government

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Though not yet 50 years old, the Raymond Post Office is exceptionally significant on the local level for its architecture, as a legacy of the federal public works programs of the Depression era, and as a symbol of the link between local citizens and the federal government. The Raymond MPO is an unaltered example of a small town post office with federal offices. It symbolizes the federal government's assistance to small communities, through its public buildings programs, during a period of national economic emergency. Most importantly, the building represents the efforts of local citizens working through their elected representatives in Washington D.C. to get their first and only federal building.

ARCHITECTURE

The design is one of several standardized plans developed by the Office of the Supervising Architect; the front facade is identical to the post offices in Snohomish (1938), Camas (1939), and Shelton (1938). Moreover, the design, with minor variations in trim detailing, is typical of numerous other small town post offices constructed in the state and throughout the Northwest during the mid- to late-1930s. The building is the first and only federally-constructed post office in Raymond. Although the building does not constitute a unique architectural entity in the body of state-wide architecture, it is the only building of this particular style in Raymond. The Raymond MPO, as most of the buildings constructed during the Depression era, utilizes Classical symmetry and proportion. The facade is flat and essentially stripped of architectural detail. A round arch and sculpted eagle provide emphasis to the entry bay and a cupola atop a gable roof characterize the American Colonial.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

- 1. Raymond Herald; various articles 1935 - 1940.
- 2. Original Building Plans; 1938 - 1939.
- 3. Williams, L.R. Our Pacific County. Raymond, WA: Raymond Herald, 1964 (facsimile reproduction of 1930 edition).
- 4. Ramsey, Guy R. Postmarked Washington: Pacific & Wahkiakum. Lake Oswego, OR: Raven Press, 1987.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A
 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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

USPS Facilities Service Center
San Bruno, CA 94099-0330

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 0.34

UTM References

A 10 444140 5170360
Zone Easting Northing

B _____
Zone Easting Northing

C _____

D _____

Quadrangle Name: Raymond
Quadrangle Scale: 1:24,000

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 16, 17, 18, 19 & 20, Block 17, Replat Raymond and 1st. The site is on the Southeast corner of Duryea Street and Fourth Street. Beginning at the Northwest corner, thence E100', S150', W100', N150' to point of beginning.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the property originally purchased by the federal government for the post office site.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title H.J. "Jim" Kolva, Project Manager; Steve Franks, Research Assistant
 organization Institute For Urban & Local Studies date March 1989
 street & number West 705 First Avenue telephone (509) 458-6219
 city or town Spokane state WA zip code 99204

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As Raymond's first and only federally-constructed post office and because of its association with the New Deal public works programs, the building is locally significant under Criterion A. It represents the link between the federal government and the local community, and functions as both a symbol and as an agency of the federal government. The building further symbolizes the massive public building programs of the Depression. Perhaps most importantly, it is a legacy of the efforts of local citizens, through their elected officials in Washington, to get a federal post office.

Congressman Martin F. Smith advised the Raymond Chamber of Commerce in April of 1935 that he was working to get the city a new federal post office. News of the post office seemed all but forgotten on the pages of the local Raymond Herald until July 15, 1938, when the banner headline proclaimed: "Raymond to Get Federal Building." Congressman Smith had been successful. Once the appropriation was approved, the local politics of locating a site prevailed. Indeed, a group of businessmen, who saw the advantage of having the post office nearby, offered a site for only \$1.00. Apparently the federal site inspector did not see the same advantage. A "golden shovel" wielded by six prominent civic leaders ceremoniously broke ground for the new building. In spite of a short labor strike, construction progressed through the summer of 1940, leading up to the banner headline of October 25th: "Post Office Dedication Set For Saturday."

One thousand people attended the laying of the cornerstone on October 26th. Politicians orated, the high school band played, and the VFW and boy scouts raised the stars and stripes. Congressman Smith, in his address, reminded the citizens that this building was but a small part of the \$2,079,702 of federal funds that had been expended in the county between March 4, 1933 and June of 1939. Uncle Sam (and the Congressman) had looked after his citizens. The building being dedicated was the first federally-constructed post office in Pacific County (it was the only one built in the county during the Depression; not even the county seat at South Bend got a federal post office). The long struggle on the part of local civic leaders had ended in success.

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Raymond is approximately 120 miles southwest of Seattle on the Willapa River in Pacific County, in the southwestern corner of Washington State. Logging, fishing (especially "oystering"), farming, and tourism are the mainstays of the local economy. In 1987 Raymond had an estimated population of 2,900.

Raymond is a comparatively young Pacific County community. (Pacific County, created in 1851 while still a part of Oregon Territory, is one of the three oldest counties in Washington.) Raymond did not exist as a town until after the turn of the century. Before that it was the Donation Land Claim and the homestead of several families. In 1904 the first plat of Raymond was filed and the post office was officially established. City fathers named the town "Raymond" in honor of the first postmaster, L. V. Raymond. Incorporated in 1907, the town was mostly in tidelands in its early years, with its streets and sidewalks built five or six feet above the mud. In 1910, Raymond had a population of 2,450. After 1911 the town grew rapidly, its growth stimulated by lumber mills and shipyards. In 1912 a portion of the business district was filled and the South Fork was dredged to make the channel deeper for boats loaded with lumber. Dozens of sawmill operations took advantage of free industrial sites offered by town promoters (today, hundreds of exposed, rotting pilings, along with two operating mills, are the only reminder of the more than twenty mills that existed in Raymond in 1912). In 1915 the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad was completed into Raymond (the Northern Pacific Railroad had already been built through the area in 1893).

Raymond's population reached a peak in 1918 when it had an estimated population of 9,000 to 10,000. It dropped to 7,500 in 1919 and to 4,260 in 1920. By 1930 it had fallen to 3,797. In spite of this decline in population, most of the city's downtown business district was constructed in the 1920s. Its population increased slightly in 1940, to 4,045, and again in 1950, to 4,110. Since then it has declined, to 3,301 in 1960, to 3,126 in 1970, and to 2,991 in 1980.

The Raymond Post Office, on the southeast corner of Fourth and Duryea Streets, is one block east of Third Street,

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the city's primary business district street. Adjacent to the south is the one-story brick Pacific Northwest Bell building (modern). A city park occupies the half-block east of the alley. West, across Fourth Street, is the modern, one-story, frame Seattle First National Bank. North, across Duryea Street, is the one-story, stucco PUD building and to its east the city park. One-story stucco office buildings are kitty-cornered from the Post Office. The half-timber English cottage-style public library (1929) is on the northeast corner of Fifth and Duryea Streets. The high school (2-1/2 story, concrete, 1925) is several blocks east of the post office at Commercial and Ninth. The business district, constructed primarily during the 1920s, consists of one- and two-story brick and stucco buildings.

LOCAL NEWSPAPER COVERAGE OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RAYMOND MAIN POST OFFICE

"Federal Building Sought For City" read a Raymond Herald headline of April 26, 1935. Raymond's Chamber of Commerce had received a wire from Congressman Martin F. Smith stating that he had entered a bill requesting an \$80,000 structure for Raymond. On July 26th it was reported that local lumber mill workers, on strike since May 7th, had vetoed a proposed pact. (On August 16th it was reported the strike was over.) "Newly Appointed Postmaster Dies Suddenly Monday" was the news of August 2nd; John O. Fresk, who had replaced William Busch as Postmaster on May 16th, had died. On December 20th it was reported that the new postmaster was John M. Eager.

In 1936 the Herald reported that a new night shift at the lumber mills would employ 200 men, federal and state funds were promised for a proposed Willapa Valley Water Works Project (including a PWA grant of \$31,091) and \$300,000 would be spent in the county that winter for state highways.

The new year of 1937 started out with the news that, "marking a definite trend back to better times," postal receipts for 1936 were at a record level of \$20,560.35. On April 9th it was reported that the city would receive a WPA water project. On November 26th it was announced that due to market conditions some of the mills would be shutting down; 1,312 men at an average daily wage of \$6.41 would be affected. In December it was reported that 200 unemployed

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men would get WPA work in Raymond on different projects and that the city's finances were in "No. 1" condition--there was only \$12,000 in outstanding bonds.

On January 14, 1938 the Herald reported that despite labor troubles and two months with no traffic, port revenues in 1937 were higher than any previous year; \$25,047.46. On March 25th it was reported that two mills would open and one would shut down, reflecting the "up and down" trend of the lumber industry. "Cleanup Program Aided By \$19,480 To Beautify City" read a headline of April 22; a WPA allotment would beautify streets and fill grades. On July 1st it was reported that \$500,000 of WPA funds had been allocated for road work in Pacific County.

"Raymond To Get Federal Building" headlined the Herald on July 15. Postmaster Eager had received a telegram from Congressman Smith informing him of the \$80,000 appropriation for Raymond. A Chamber of Commerce committee had been appointed to assist in finding a site. The paper noted: "The final approval marks the climax of several years of waiting and several efforts to secure a federal building."

On July 22nd the Herald reported that site selection would soon begin and noted that any "impression that the Chamber of Commerce has any say in choosing location is wrong." On August 12th it was reported that a group of local businessmen had submitted the lowest site bid, \$1.00 for five lots; the highest bid was \$5,980. Two months later it was announced that the selected site was on the corner of 4th and Duryea, offered by Carl Gyling for \$1,550 (October 7th article). Within two weeks the site was being surveyed.

In January 1939 the Herald reported that 1938 postal receipts were \$33.21 higher than in 1937 and that 1938 harbor shipping was down 28 percent, the lowest in the past eight years (articles of January 6th and 13th). On March 17th it was reported that an additional \$20,000 had been allocated for Raymond's new post office, for a total of \$95,000. The additional money would be used for government offices.

On June 2nd it was reported that the recent death of Carl Gyling had caused a delay in the title transfer. A few weeks later bids were solicited and it was noted that because

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of water conditions, no offices could be on the ground floor (June 23rd article). The George Isaacson Company of Portland submitted the low bid of \$73,475 (October 13th article). On November 24th the Herald reported that about 150 people had attended an informal ground-breaking ceremony the previous Tuesday; six prominent civic leaders had broken ground with a "golden" shovel and the high school band played "America."

On February 2, 1940 it was reported that post office construction was halted: six workers were on strike. They did not feel that their wage of 62.5 cents/hour met the minimum community standard. They wanted 85 cents/hour. A week later the strike was settled and work resumed (wages for common and semi-skilled workers were increased to 75 cents/hour and those for carpenters and helpers increased to 85 cents/hour). By February 23rd the Herald could report that pilings had been driven and cement was being poured. The Chamber of Commerce had also sent a request to Washington, D.C. requesting that Washington State stone be used in the building.

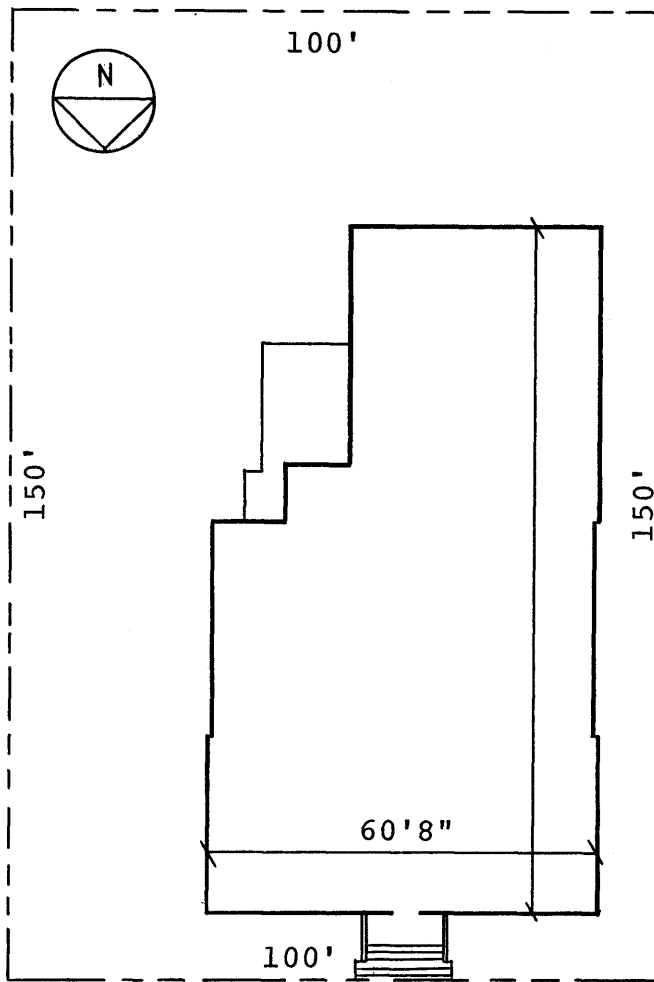
By September the post office was nearly complete and the Chamber of Commerce recommended that the Post Office Department be asked to buy three lots to the west for beautification. On September 27th it was announced that an "elaborate" dedication ceremony was being planned by the Chamber for October 26th. A banner headline of the 25th announced: "Post Office Dedication Set For Saturday". The article noted that "Completion of the postoffice will mark the end of a long and sometimes discouraging struggle on the part of civic leaders and others interested in promoting the project." Congressman Smith would speak at the cornerstone ceremony. Postal officials from Seattle and Tacoma would also participate, as would postmaster Eager, local clergy, Mayor Gurr, Judge O'Phelan, and the high school band. Zeckman's Radio Electric Shop would furnish the public address equipment.

A week later, on November 1st, the paper reported that 1,000 people had attended the "impressive" ceremony, which went off as planned. Postmaster Eager was unable to state when the post office would open, since some interior materials were not available to the contractor because of war defense orders. Finally, on November 29th, the Herald was able to report "\$90,000 Post Office To Open Monday" and that the new building would be able to handle the "Xmas" mail.

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FOURTH STREET

DURYEA STREET



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Section number Photos Page 1 RAYMOND MPO

The following information is the same for all the photographs listed:

1. Raymond MPO
2. Raymond, Washington
3. Jim Kolva
4. August 1987
5. Negatives on file at USPS Facilities Service Center, San Bruno, CA.

Photo No. 1 (negative #1A)

6. View to southwest

Photo No. 2 (negative #19A)

6. View to south

Photo No. 3 (negative #2A)

6. View to southeast