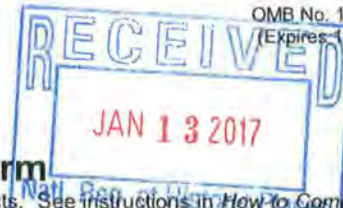


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



56 692

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 any 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 U.S. Post Office and Court House
Other names/site number Ed Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse

2. Location

Street & Number 109 South Highland Avenue Not for Publication N/A
City or Town Jackson Vicinity N/A
State Tennessee Code TN County Madison Code 113
Zip Code 38301

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] 1/10/2017
Signature of certifying official Date
Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. General Services Administration
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

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

[Signature] 1/15/16
Signature of commenting official/Title Date
Tennessee Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register [Signature] Signature of Keeper 2-28-2017 Date of Action
 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):

was designed and built between 1931 and 1933, with a harmonious two-story addition constructed in 1966. The original structure is a rectangle, with its longest facade fronting on South Highland Avenue; the addition extends west from the southwest (back) facade of the original structure, towards South Shannon Street. The Ed Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse was designed and built under James A. Wetmore during his tenure as Acting Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury. Constructed of reinforced poured concrete with limestone exterior cladding, the building is in good condition, and retains a high degree of architectural integrity with respect to its exterior and significant interior spaces.

The property is bounded by a small built-out parcel and West Main Street to the north, South Highland Avenue to the east, South Shannon Street to the west, and the former West Baltimore Street to the south. West Baltimore Street has been closed to vehicular access and landscaped to create an open courtyard between the Ed Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse and the U.S. District Court on the parcel immediately south. The landscape surrounding the Ed Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse consists of paved sidewalks on all sides, with street trees along West Main Street and South Highland Avenue; lawn panels, at the east and south, bordered by raised concrete curbs and planted with ornamental trees; and shrub masses at entrances. A single flagpole stands at the southeast corner of the site.

Current tenants of the Ed Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse include offices of the U.S. District Court, U.S. Attorney, U.S. Trustee Program, Internal Revenue Service, House of Representatives, Senate, Social Security Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Transportation, Drug Enforcement Agency, and Department of Labor.

Please see Section 7 Continuation Sheets.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for 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.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a 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)

ARCHITECTURE
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Period of Significance

1931-1966

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Dates

N/A

Architect/Builder

James A. Wetmore , Acting Supervising Architect
of U.S. Treasury

Summary Statement

Criteria A Politics/Government

The Ed Jones Federal Building and U. S. Courthouse is significant under Criterion A at the local level with a period of significance of 1931-1966 for its association with the federal presence in Jackson, Tennessee. It was designed to provide a more substantial and modern facility for the burgeoning region, and the city of Jackson had been home to postal and judicial services since the early nineteenth century. A 1966 addition responded to the post-World War II growth of the area's population and expansion of the Federal government, ensuring continuation of the federal presence in Jackson.

Criteria C Architecture

The Ed Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse is significant under Criterion C at the local level with a period of significance of 1931-1966 for embodying the distinctive characteristics of the Neo-Classical Revival style, as exhibited by its high quality craftsmanship and detailing. Completed in 1933, a 1966 addition added two floors at the southwest of the building, seamlessly blending with the original design.

Please see Section 8 Continuation Sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Please see Section 9 Continuation Sheets.

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- 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

Acreage of Property 1.0

UTM References (NAD 1983)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	335202	3942633	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The building is located between S. Highland Avenue to the east; S. Shannon Street to the west; a small parcel and W. Main Street to the north; and the former W. Baltimore Street, now the M.D. Anderson Memorial Plaza, to the south.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary for the building described above is the historic boundary.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title Sherry Frear
 Organization General Services Administration Date November 7, 2016
 Street & Number 1800 F Street, NW Telephone 202-297-0812
 City or Town Washington State DC Zip Code 20405

Name/Title Erica Kachmarsky & Christopher Hetzel
 Organization ICF Jones & Stokes Associates Date 2/29/2008, rev. 7/23/2009
 Street & Number 811 W. 7th Street, Suite 800 Telephone 213-627-5376
 City or Town Los Angeles State CA Zip Code 90017

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

Sketch map showing local area and distinguishing original structure and later addition.

Photograph Log

Name of Property:	U.S. Post Office and Court House
City or Vicinity:	Jackson
County:	Madison
State:	TN
Name of Photographer:	Erica Kachmarsky Christopher Hetzel ICF Jones & Stokes Associates
Date of Photographs:	July 2009
Location of Original Digital Files:	General Services Administration 1800 F Street, NW, Suite 5400 Washington, DC 20405

Photo #1 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0001)
South and east facades, view to northwest

Photo #2 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0002)
East (primary) facade, view to west

Photo #3 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0003)
North and east facades, view to southwest

Photo #4 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0004)
North and east facades, view to southwest

Photo #5 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0005)
North facade, view to southwest

Photo #6 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0006)
East facade, basement window well, view to west

Photo #7 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0007)
East facade, central section center tripartite window with lunette at first floor, view to west

Photo #8 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0008)
East facade, central section second and third floors, view to west

Photo #9 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0009)
East facade, central section tripartite window with lunette at first floor, view to west

Photo #10 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0010)
East facade, lamps, view to southwest

Photo #11 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0011)
East facade, cornerstone, view to west

Photo #12 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0012)
North and west facades, view to southeast

Photo #13 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0013)
West facade, loading dock, view to southeast

Photo #14 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0014)
West facade, view to southeast

Photo #15 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0015)
West facade, retaining wall at parking lot, view to east

Photo #16 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0016)
West facade, addition, view to east

Photo #17 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0017)
South facade, addition showing pedestrian entrance, view to north

Photo #18 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0018)
South facade, view to northeast

Photo #19 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0019)
South facade, view to north

Photo #20 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0020)
South facade, double stairs, view to north

Photo #21 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0021)
Interior, main lobby, view to south

Photo #22 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0022)
Interior, typical bathroom

Photo #23 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0023)
Interior, typical wood paneled door and trim

Photo #24 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0024)
Interior, view of typical interior space

Photo #25 (TN_Madison_County_US_Post_Office_and_Court_House_0025)
Interior, view of third floor corridor

Photos date to July 2009 and accurately depict the current condition of the building.

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

Name	U.S. General Services Administration		
Organization	Region 4 (Southeast Sunbelt Region)	Telephone	404-562-0671
Street & Number	77 Forsyth Street, SW, Suite 600		
City or Town	Atlanta	State	GA Zip Code 30303

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.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to range from approximately 18 hours to 36 hours depending on several factors including, but not limited to, how much documentation may already exist on the type of property being nominated and whether the property is being nominated as part of a Multiple Property Documentation Form. In most cases, it is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form to meet minimum National Register documentation requirements. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

*U.S. Post Office and Court House
Madison County, Tennessee*

Description

Exterior

The Ed Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse is a three-story building, with a partially raised full basement. The building has a rectangular plan on the basement and first floor, and a U-shaped plan on the second and third floors. The site originally sloped from a high point at the east to its low point at the west, which required the construction of a retaining wall along the western boundary at S. Shannon Street.

Originally constructed to house both a U.S. post office and courthouse, the concrete and limestone-clad structure was designed in the Neo-Classical Revival style. Neo-Classical Revival courthouses are typically three stories above grade with stylistic elements linked to Greek and Roman architecture. Generally, the first floor has Doric elements that are simple with clean lines; the second floor has Ionic elements which are more decorative and elaborate; and the third floor incorporates Corinthian details that are very ornate and decorative. The window sizes typically change from floor to floor. Archways and pediments typically accent the porches and entries, and the roofline is often trimmed by decorative balustrades and molding. However, the Ed Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse varies somewhat in its application of these formal principles, most notably in its lack of Corinthian details.

The building's vertical massing follows the classical tripartite division associated with the classic column of Greek and Roman architecture, namely, base, shaft, and capital. The base contains the building's first story and sits atop a water table which marks the slightly above-grade basement level. The building's cornerstone is located at the south side of the front steps and reads "Ogden L. Mills, Secretary of the Treasury; Ferry Heath, Assistant Secretary; James A. Wetmore, Acting Supervising Architect; 1932."

The second and third stories comprise the shaft, which is distinguished from the base by a belt course that projects slightly from the face of the building. The Ed Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse breaks from the Neo-Classical Revival style with its unadorned third story.

Above the third story is an entablature with a narrow architrave, wide frieze, and dentilated cornice. Above the cornice is a parapet that consists of alternating sections of open limestone balustrades and panels. The entire exterior of the building is clad with limestone, including the window surrounds, parapet, and decorative elements.

The configuration of the windows is generally consistent throughout the building. Except for the central section of the front facade, the first story windows are eight-over-twelve light, double-hung sash within a wood frame. Similar windows articulate the second story. The window openings at the third story and basement levels are slightly smaller, being eight-over-eight light, double-hung sash within a wood frame.

The building's roof is flat with a built-up tar and gravel surface. Although original drawings for the structure called for the construction of a slate-clad truncated hip roof and a Colonial Revival style bell tower rising from the center of the front elevation, neither of these features were built.

East (Primary) Facade

The primary (front) facade faces east onto South Highland Avenue. This facade is symmetrically and vertically divided into three sections. The two outermost sections are each two bays wide; ornamentation is limited to projecting belt courses, and window treatments consist of blind arches at the first floor and simple flat pediments at

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 2

*U.S. Post Office and Court House
Madison County, Tennessee*

the second floor. The building's central section projects from the facade and is five bays wide. A wide flight of marble stairs, delineated by four sets of slender metal railings, rises from street level to arrive at a wide landing.

Along the first story of the central section are five arched openings. The two outermost openings have tripartite windows with wood mullions and lunettes with wood muntins. The adjacent openings are entrances, with replacement stainless steel double doors topped by a large rectangular transom and a leaded sunburst lunette. Metal plaques of the Great Seal of the United States, both the obverse and the reverse, flank the entrances. The central section's middle opening was once an entryway but has been filled by a tripartite window with wood mullions and a leaded sunburst lunette topped with a large stone keystone. Metal lanterns with divided glass sections and spiked finials flank this window and provide lighting. Individual metal letters mounted on stand-offs span from entrance-to-entrance and identify the building as the "Ed Jones Federal Building" and "United States Courthouse." A limestone belt course separates the first and second stories.

An Ionic hexastyle portico at the central section's second and third stories has wrought iron balconies at the second story between the two-story columns. The eight-over-twelve light, wood double-hung sash windows at the second story are topped by triangular pediments, with slip sills above scored limestone panels. Windows on the third story are eight-over-eight light, wood double-hung sash, without pediments. Above the third story, the entablature consists of a plain architrave, a frieze with single rosettes aligned symmetrically above each column, and a cornice elaborated by dentilated molding. The parapet is comprised of panels with carved block words "Post Office" and "Court House" on either side of a centered, bas relief American eagle. Each end of the portico's parapet is finished with a single panel with a bas relief classical urn and foliage.

On both sides of the portico, the bays at the parapet are pierced at intervals with sections of baluster railing. This pattern continues around the building. Windows in these bays on the first story are eight-over-twelve light, wood double-hung sash set into blind arches. On the second story, the windows are eight-over-twelve light, wood double-hung sash with flat pediments and slip sills above scored limestone panels. The third story windows are smaller and nearly square, being eight-over-eight light, wood double-hung sash, and are identical to the third story windows of the center section.

At each corner of the east facade, a decorative metal fence protects window wells. A wood stockade-style fence extends from the building's northeast corner to the building on the abutting property.

North and South Facades

The north and south (side) facades follow the pattern of elements seen at the north and south sections of the east (front/primary) facade. The south facade has an entry with steel frame glass double doors and a transom surmounted by an arched leaded lunette below a center keystone; it is accessed by a quarter-turn double stairway with a wrought metal handrail. Metal lanterns, identical to those seen at the east (front/primary) facade, flank the doorway. At the 1966 addition, a pedestrian entrance at the south facade has metal steel double doors flanked by large door-height storefront-style sidelights. This entrance is sheltered by an awning that spans the width of the door and sidelights.

West Facade

The west (rear) facade has a two-story addition at the original structure's southwest facade, with a loading dock and service/parking lot. The addition continues the original building's belt course and window treatments of blind arch

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 3

*U.S. Post Office and Court House
Madison County, Tennessee*

eight-over-twelve double-hung windows on the second floor and eight-over-eight double-hung windows on the ground floor. The building's smokestack is adjacent to the loading dock.

Interior

The building's most decorative interior spaces are its first floor lobby and second floor courtroom, although original and significant character-defining features are intact throughout the building and can be found within its corridors, offices, courtrooms, and ancillary spaces.

Basement

All original spaces shown in the 1932 construction drawings within the basement are extant. The basement spaces include various storage spaces, a boiler room, "swing" rooms, and restrooms. While the original terrazzo flooring along the basement corridor is intact, the corridor includes non-original wood doors and hardware, as well as non-original metal trim around these doors and rubber baseboard along the corridor floor. The ceiling of the basement corridor is a non-original acoustic tile ceiling with recessed fluorescent lighting.

First Floor

The first floor includes many original character-defining spaces and features throughout its public areas, including original terrazzo floors; plaster walls and ceilings; wood trim; pendant lighting; and furnishings. Non-original features of the ground floor include acoustic tile ceilings, recessed fluorescent lighting, and carpeting in the corridors and interior spaces of the building. The only area extensively remodeled within the entire building is the original post office space on the first floor, which is now in-filled with offices.

Main Lobby

The main lobby runs north-south and is a narrow but light-filled space. Windows and the primary entries from the outdoors are located along the east wall. The lobby's south wall has a single rectangular, multi-paned window centered on the wall. Spanning the lobby's north wall is a non-original glass enclosure with an entrance into the U.S. Probation Office spaces.

The most decorative original and character-defining feature of the lobby is its ceiling, which consists of painted wood beams outlined in decorative dentilated trim, framing each bay. Decorative corbels accent each end of the distinctive ceiling beams. Original pendant lights hang from the center of each framed bay directly opposite each window along the east wall. Original terrazzo flooring with limestone borders, limestone wainscot, and plaster wall finishes are intact throughout the lobby.

Elevator Lobby

The elevator lobby is an extension of the main lobby, and includes many of the same original features as seen in the main lobby. Replacement stainless steel double entry doors extend across the east wall of the elevator lobby. The terrazzo flooring with limestone borders, limestone wainscot, and plasterwork as seen in the main lobby continue into the elevator lobby. The ceiling of the elevator lobby reflects the architectural motif of the main lobby's ceiling, being framed by extensive painted wood trim and lit by an original pendant light. While the elevator within the lobby is in its original location, the cab has been replaced.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 4

*U.S. Post Office and Court House
Madison County, Tennessee*

First Floor Corridor

The building's first floor corridor includes both original plaster walls and terrazzo flooring, although other corridor finishes appear altered, including non-original wood doors, metal trim, rubber baseboard, and acoustic tile ceiling with recessed fluorescent lighting.

Stairwell and Elevators

The building's interior stairwell is utilitarian in design, with painted metal pipe rails. The space includes non-original applied tread finishes and fluorescent lighting.

Elevators are still located within the original lobbies and at the building's rear loading dock. None of the elevator cabs in the building are original, although their locations are original.

Upper Floor Spaces

The upper floors include many original character-defining features including original terrazzo floors and tile throughout public areas such as corridors, stairwells, and bathrooms. Other original features include painted wood chair rails and baseboards, paneled wood doors, hardware, lighting, and furniture. Non-original features of the upper floors include acoustic tile ceilings, recessed fluorescent lighting, and carpeting. Carpeting has been installed in the private offices and interior spaces.

Significant interior spaces and features of the upper floors have been identified as the following:

Second Floor Corridors

The second floor corridors include original plaster walls, terrazzo floors, and limestone wainscot, identical to those seen in the first floor lobby spaces, as well as dark-painted wood five-paneled double doors and related wood trim with original hardware. Some of the original wood doors also include original features such as vents and oval lights. Non-original features of the corridors include acoustic tile ceilings and recessed fluorescent lighting.

Second Floor Judge's Chambers

The second floor judge's chambers include original plaster walls; painted wood chair rail, base trim, and picture rail; painted wood paneled doors with original hardware; and original windows and hardware. The carpeting, acoustic tile ceiling, and recessed fluorescent lighting are not original.

Second Floor Judge's Restroom

The flooring of the judge's restroom on the second floor matches the terrazzo flooring of the corridor. The walls have original limestone wainscot, original wall-mounted ceramic sinks, and original mirrors with painted wood trim. The restroom door is an original dark-painted wood paneled door, with original hardware. The acoustic tile ceiling and recessed fluorescent lighting are not original.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 5

*U.S. Post Office and Court House
Madison County, Tennessee*

Second Floor Courtroom

The second floor courtroom features many original and character-defining features. The two-story room occupies the center of the floor and is the largest space in the building, with offices, ancillary spaces, and a restroom located along its perimeter. The courtroom is accessed through original wood paneled double doors with original trim and hardware. Each door includes a centrally placed oval light; both doors are topped by a transom with five arched lights and extensive trim. Centered on the south wall is the judge's bench (raised desk), above which is an official United States Seal set atop drapery that extends to the dramatic ceiling trim above. The ceiling of the courtroom is flat and framed with extensive trim, similar to the corbels that accent each ceiling beam of the main lobby. Non-original recessed lighting is regularly spaced within the ceiling field. Original pendant lights hang in regular intervals from the ceiling. The courtroom features original wood furnishings including desks, tables, stands, chairs, and pew-style benches. Alterations to the space are minimal and consist carpeting and recessed lighting.

Second Floor Jury Room

The jury room on the second floor includes original walls with painted wood baseboard, ceiling trim, and chair rail. Original dark-painted wood paneled doors lead into men's and women's restrooms located along the south wall. The restrooms retain original features similar to those of the judge's restroom, including original ceramic sinks and mirrors with painted wood trim. Alterations to the jury room include carpeting, acoustic tile ceiling, and recessed fluorescent lighting.

Second Floor Offices

Offices on the second floor include original dark-painted wood five-paneled doors with original hardware and painted wood baseboard and chair rail. The spaces' configurations all appear to be original. Alterations include carpeting, acoustic tile ceiling, and recessed fluorescent lighting.

Third Floor Corridors

The third floor corridors include original terrazzo flooring and limestone baseboards as seen elsewhere in the building. Along the corridors are doorways with painted wood paneled doors with original hardware. The doors and related wood trim on this floor are all painted white, distinguishing them from the dark-painted wood features elsewhere in the building. Along the south wall is an original wood pew-style bench of the same dark stain as the wood furnishings found on the lower floors of the building. The ceiling is a non-original acoustic tile ceiling with recessed fluorescent lighting.

Third Floor Offices

The entrance doors to the third floor offices are flanked by wood wainscot. Painted wood double doors with original door pulls lead into the third floor offices, where the wainscot continues. The flooring of this portion of the corridor and the offices is carpeting. The office ceilings are non-original acoustic tile ceilings with recessed fluorescent lighting.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 6

*U.S. Post Office and Court House
Madison County, Tennessee*

Alterations

Alterations to the building's interior include the installation of acoustic tile ceilings with recessed fluorescent lighting throughout all corridors and interior office spaces. All interior office spaces and portions of the corridors have been carpeted. The basement and first floor corridors' finishes are the most extensively altered, with rubber baseboards and metal trim around replacement doors. Despite these alterations, the building retains many intact character-defining features that are original and retain a high degree of integrity.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 1

*U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Madison County, Tennessee*

Significance

The passage of the Public Buildings Act of 1926 precipitated a period of building construction that was unprecedented in the United States. The Act specified that the Office of the Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury would be responsible for the design and construction of federal buildings. Constructed from 1931-1933 to house both a post office and a courthouse, the Ed Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse was designed and built under James A. Wetmore during his tenure as Acting Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury.

The city of Jackson had been home to postal and judicial services since the early nineteenth century. The Neo-Classical Revival structure was built as a post office and courthouse in response to the demand for a new, modernized facility. The site is located in the central business district of the city near other public services. Expanded in 1966 to provide additional offices, parking, and delivery space, the building continues to serve as an active, visible symbol of the federal presence in Jackson.

The Ed Jones Federal Building and U. S. Courthouse is significant under Criterion A at the local level with a period of significance of 1931-1966 for its association with the federal presence in Jackson, Tennessee; and under Criterion C at the local level with a period of significance of 1931-1966 for embodying the distinctive characteristics of the Neo-Classical Revival style, as exhibited by the high quality craftsmanship and detailing of the original 1933 structure and the seamless integration of the 1966 addition. The continuation of the Neo-Classical style in the addition was unusual at a time when the Federal government was emphasizing contemporary design.

Growth of Postal and Court Services in Jackson

Madison County, named in honor of James Madison, fourth president of the United States, was formed from a region of Tennessee called "The Western District" on November 11, 1821.¹ Jackson, named in honor of Andrew Jackson, the seventh president, was selected as county seat in 1822.²

On April 9, 1822, Samuel Taylor was appointed the first postmaster in Jackson. He distributed mail from his general store, operating a charge account business with some mail recipients and making others pay when the papers and letters were delivered. Letters did not carry stamps until 1847; instead, delivery charges depended upon the distance traveled and the receiver paid the fee. There were no railroads, so the mail arrived in Jackson by stagecoach, an irregular, slow, and costly mode of transportation. In areas lacking bridges, streams had to be forded, leading to comments found in the *Randolph Recorder* of 1836 such as "wet mail again" or "dripping mail again." Post riders carried the mail when the roads were too rugged for the stagecoach.³

As county seat, Jackson had early been described as "the seat of learning and temple of law."⁴ By acts of the U.S. Congress in 1802 and 1839, federal district courts for the Eastern, Middle, and Western Districts of Tennessee were established, with one judgeship serving all three districts.⁵ The first term of the Western District was held in the Presbyterian Church in Jackson.⁶

¹ Marion B. Smothers and Emma Inman Williams, *Jackson & Madison County: A Pictorial History* (Norfolk, VA: The Donning Company, 1988), 16.

² John W. Carpenter and Michael Emerick, *Tennessee Courthouses* (London, KY: J.W. Carpenter, 1996), 110.

³ "Stagecoach, Post Riders Brought First Mail to Jackson," *Jackson (TN) Sun*, Sesquicentennial Edition, c. 1970, 6.

⁴ "Long Court History Props Jackson's Title of 'Temple of Law,'" *Jackson (TN) Sun*, Centennial Edition, 1948, 2.

⁵ History of the Federal Judiciary, http://www.fjc.gov/history/home.nsf/page/courts_district_tn.html, accessed October 26, 2016.

⁶ Emma Inman Williams, *Historic Madison: The Story of Jackson and Madison County Tennessee* (Jackson, TN: Jackson-Madison County Homecoming 1986 Steering Committee, 1986), 235.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

*U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Madison County, Tennessee*

Section 8 Page 2

Following the Civil War, due to the city's position as a stronghold of Confederate sentiment, the reconstruction government chose not to allow any important judicial business to be conducted in Jackson. As a result, in 1868, the courts, together with all records, books, and furnishings, were removed from Jackson to Brownsville. However, two years later, when the new Tennessee Constitution of 1870 went into effect, the courts returned to Jackson.⁷

It was not until 1878 that a separate judgeship was authorized for the Western District (with the existing judgeship being assigned to the Eastern and Middle Districts).⁸ On May 19, 1882, Congress authorized the construction of a large new courthouse and post office in Jackson. Completed in 1888 at a cost of \$68,976.87, the imposing two-and-a-half story Romanesque style red brick structure was heated by hot-water and open grates, and was considered at the time to be the most advanced public facility the community had seen built in their city.⁹

Over the next four decades, Jackson's population more than doubled, from just over 10,000 in 1890 to more than 22,000 in 1930.¹⁰ In the early twentieth century, a new U.S. post office and courthouse—today's Ed Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse—was constructed to provide the ever-growing area with a modern federal courthouse and post office facility.¹¹ Completed in 1933, the building is now named for former Tennessee Congressman Ed Jones (1912-1999) who served twenty years in the U.S. House of Representatives, from 1969 to 1989.

History of Federal Construction

The Office of the Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury Department was responsible for the construction of federal buildings throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. As a distinct property type, these structures served to underscore the presence of the federal government throughout the nation and their designs typically incorporated revival styles to suggest timeless values and lend prestige to federal authority. The choice of location for a federal building was often contentious, with neighboring communities vying for the opportunity to become an administrative and commercial center.

The Public Buildings Act of 1926 authorized substantial funding for federal buildings. This act allowed the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster General to select towns and cities and specific sites for new buildings. As a result, a survey report was prepared in 1927 that listed towns and cities with no federal buildings, including 799 with postal receipts over \$20,000, and 1,512 with postal receipts between \$10,000 and \$20,000. The estimated cost of implementing construction was \$170,420,000, but the actual construction was delayed by economic conditions, including the stock market crash of 1929.¹²

With the onset of the Great Depression, the architectural profession and construction trades were extremely hard hit by unemployment. On May 31, 1930, Congress amended the Public Buildings Act of 1926, which increased funding and further authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to contract with private firms and individuals.¹³ To meet space requirements of the Treasury Department and the Post Office Department, the Hoover administration and the U.S.

⁷ "Long Court History," 2.

⁸ History of the Federal Judiciary, op cit.

⁹ *A History of Public Buildings Under the Control of the Treasury Department* (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1901), 550-551.

¹⁰ Department of Interior, Census Office, *Report on the Population of the United States at the Eleventh Census: 1890* (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1895); Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930* (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1931).

¹¹ Carpenter, *Tennessee Courthouses*, xiv.

¹² Emily Harris, *History of Post Office Construction, 1900-1940* (Washington, DC: U.S. Postal Service, 1982), 13-14.

¹³ Harris, *History of Post Office Construction*, 17.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Madison County, Tennessee

Section 8 Page 3

Congress increased funding for the federal building program in 1928, 1930, and 1931, for a total of \$700 million.¹⁴ The Federal Employment Stabilization Act of 1931 directed federal construction agencies to prepare six-year building plans and increased appropriations for that year by \$100 million. As a result, 133 architectural firms were commissioned in 1931 to design federal buildings, and this number increased to 301 by 1934.¹⁵ (This practice ended, however, on June 29, 1934, with an order that the Office of the Supervising Architect design all remaining federal buildings.¹⁶)

Classical architecture had become the dominant style conveying the federal presence across the nation. In the decade following World War I, the classical idiom became more streamlined as government buildings began to grow in size in response to increased economic activity and the growth of administrative functions. Government buildings from this period reflect a shift from the idealistic and traditional interpretations of Greek and Roman architecture to a more streamlined approach to design. The use of excessive ornamentation began to disappear and an emphasis on providing spacious and functional quarters emerged. Despite the stronghold of classical influences within federal architecture, influences began to change and architects began to turn away from the strict interpretation of classical orders, substituting more abstract treatments. For instance, Art Deco and Moderne styles streamlined the classical designs of the early 1930s.¹⁷

The need to provide government space but save the cost of unnecessary ornamentation during the 1930s fit well with the principles of modern architecture, principles that stressed functionality, open plans with interchangeable work areas, and exterior surfaces with uninterrupted simple planes and volumes. However, the Supervising Architect's Office did not adopt the Modernist vocabulary for exteriors, but held steadfast to architectural references to the Classical style. What resulted was Classicism on building exteriors represented as much by white masonry and the rhythm of the walls and windows as by the vestigial columns.¹⁸

Nevertheless, the government's architects were not entirely blind to the Modern Movement. The Association of Federal Architects (AFA) was organized late in 1927 with Louis A. Simon, Supervising Architect of the Treasury, as its first president. The AFA held dinners with prominent Modernist speakers such as Frank Lloyd Wright, Eliel Saarinen, and Richard Neutra.¹⁹ Although Neo-Classical style civic buildings continued to be built throughout the 1930s, there was a general acceptance of building designs inspired by the Modern Movement's Art Deco, Moderne, and International styles. These styles repudiated traditional design elements and embraced artistic expression that complemented the modern machine age and featured cubic forms with a marked horizontal or vertical emphasis, smooth surfaces, and a minimum of ornamentation.

It was during this period of transition in the nature of federal architecture that the Ed Jones Federal Building and U. S. Courthouse was designed and constructed. Its simplified Neo-Classical Revival style is an excellent example of the 1930s transition from strict classicism to a more stylized Modernist aesthetic.

The enormous growth of both the general population and the federal government following World War II, and the concomitant increased demand for judicial and postal services, lead to the expansion of the Ed Jones Federal

¹⁴ Lois Craig, ed., and the staff of the Federal Architecture Project, *The Federal Presence: Architecture, Politics, and Symbols in United States Government Building* (Cambridge: The MIT Press, 1978), 280.

¹⁵ Harris, *History of Post Office Construction*, 15-19.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Craig, *The Federal Presence*, 280-287.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid., 298.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 4

*U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Madison County, Tennessee*

Building and U.S. Courthouse in 1966. The seamless addition expanded space for postal services, ensuring continuation of the federal presence in Jackson.

Federal Presence in Jackson in the Twenty-First Century

The Ed Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse continues to represent the federal presence in Jackson. Currently, there are no postal-related activities in the building; however, the federal court facilities are still in use and several federal government departments are housed in the building. The building retains its exterior integrity and significant interior spaces retain much of their integrity, as well.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 1

U.S. Post Office and Court House
Madison County, Tennessee

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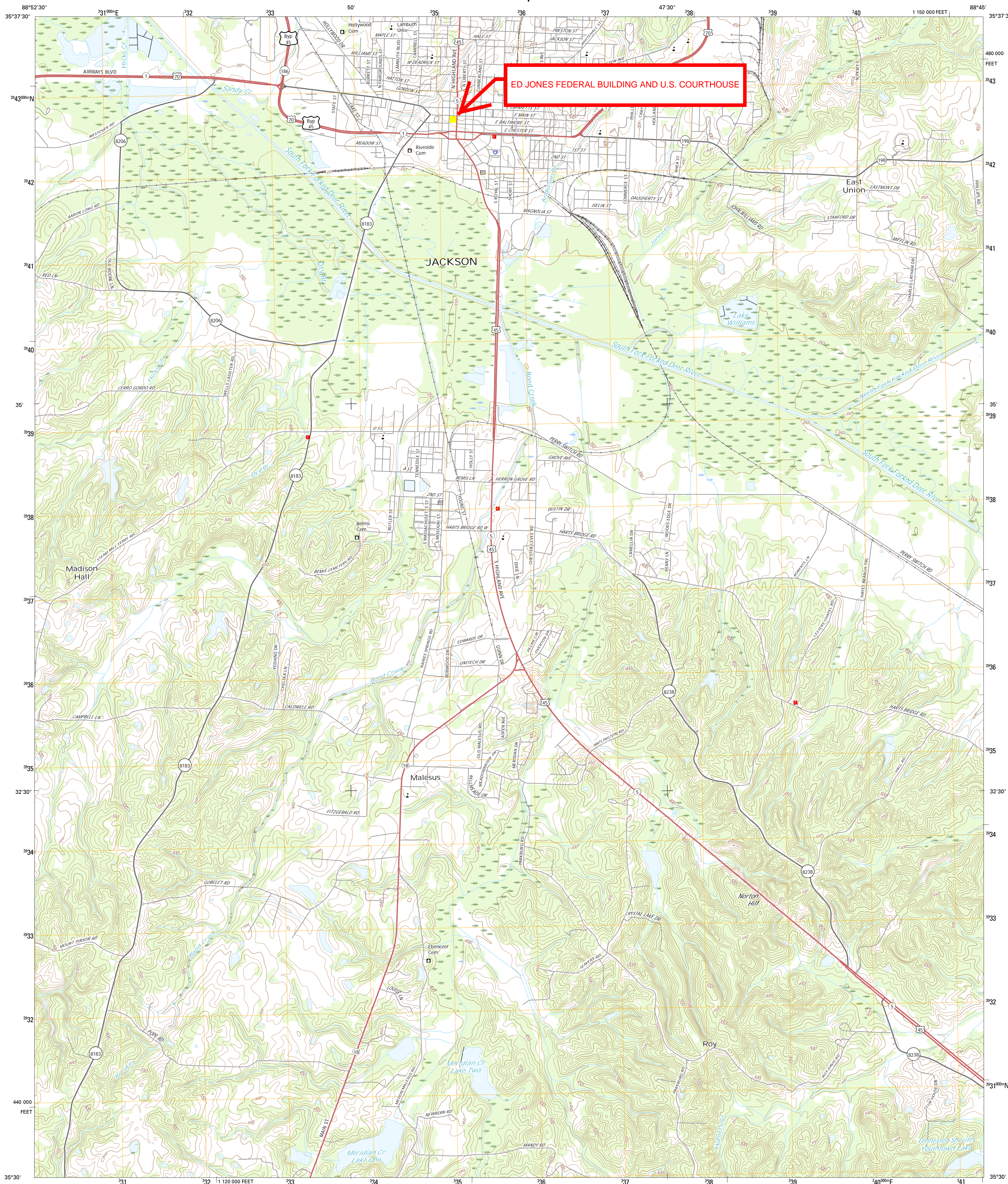
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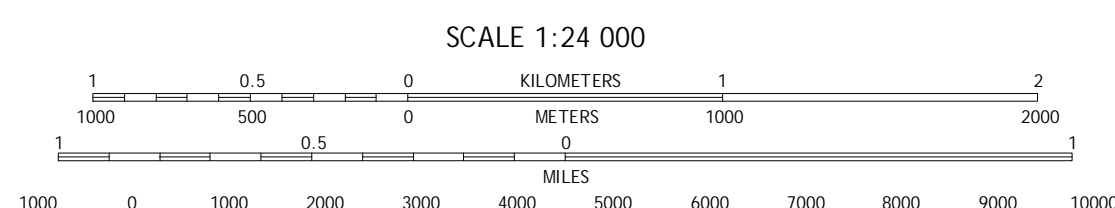
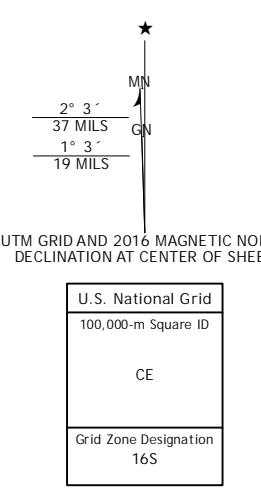
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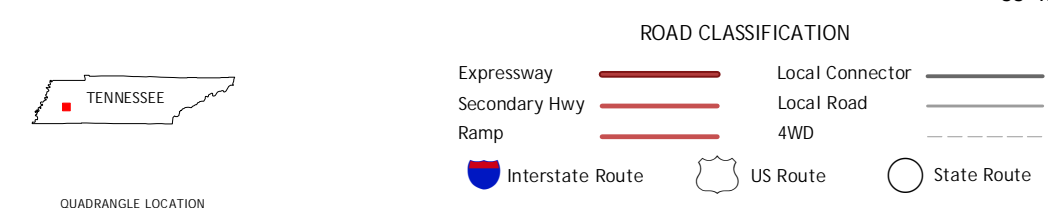
JACKSON SOUTH QUADRANGLE
TENNESSEE-MADISON CO.
7.5-MINUTE SERIES



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North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83)
World Geodetic System of 1984 (WGS84) Projection and
1 000-foot grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 16S
10 000-foot ticks: Tennessee Coordinate System of 1983
This map is not a legal document. Boundaries may be
generalized for this map scale. Private lands within government
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entering private lands.
Imagery.....NAIP, June 2014
Roads.....U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 - 2016
Names.....GNIS, 2016
Hydrography.....National Hydrography Dataset, 2014
Contours.....National Elevation Dataset, 2001
Boundaries.....Multiple sources: see metadata file 1972 - 2016
Wetlands.....FWS National Wetlands Inventory 1977 - 2014



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988
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National Geospatial Program US Topo Product Standard, 2011.
A metadata file associated with this product is draft version 0.6.19



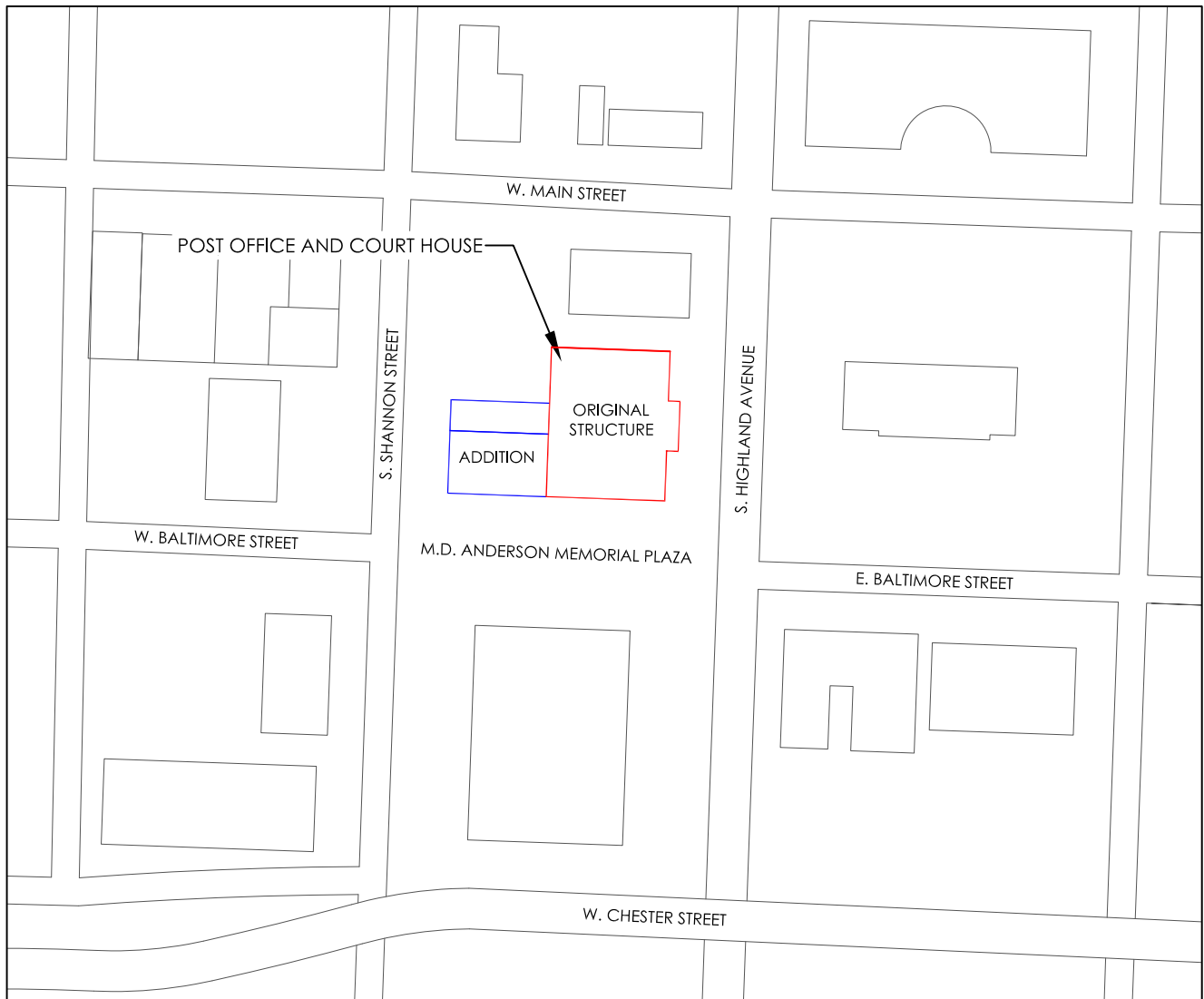
ADJOINING QUADRANGLES

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

1 Adair
2 Jackson North
3 Claybrook
4 Westover
5 Beech Bluff
6 Teague
7 Median
8 Henderson

JACKSON SOUTH, TN
2016





SCALE 1" = 150'

SOURCE: GOOGLE MAPS 2016

UTM ZONE 16 EASTING 335202 NORTHING 3942633

POST OFFICE AND COURT HOUSE
 JACKSON, MADISON COUNTY, TENNESSEE
 SKETCH MAP

Prepared October 27, 2016



S Highland Ave

1870



ED JONES FEDERAL BUILDING UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

THE
EDDY JOURNAL





THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND THE CHURCH





NES FEDERAL BUILDING

UNITED STATES COU









UNITED

CONFEDERATE BUILDING

THE CONFEDERATE

OGDEN L MILLS
SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
FERRY K HEATH
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
JAMES A WETMORE
ACTING SUPERVISING ARCHITECT
1932



















REPAIRS
REQUIRED





Rest Assured







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 1/13/2017 Date of Pending List: Date of 16th Day: Date of 45th Day: 2/28/2017 Date of Weekly List: 3/9/2017

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 2/27/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary
Comments:

Recommendation/
Criteria

Reviewer Roger Reed Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2278 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



GSA Public Buildings Service

January 11, 2017



Mr. Paul Loether
Chief, NRHP & NHL Program
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW (2280), 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is pleased to nominate the U.S. Post Office and Court House (current name: Ed Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse) located at 109 South Highland Avenue, Jackson, Tennessee, for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination is hereby submitted on disk in accordance with the May 6, 2013 guidance and includes the following:

- Signed original first page of the National Register of Historic Places nomination form;
- Disk 1 - The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the U.S. Post Office and Court House, located in Jackson, TN, to the National Register of Historic Place; and,
- Disk 2 - The enclosed disk contains the .tif image files for the above referenced nomination.

In accordance with 36 CFR Part 60.9(c), the appropriate local elected officials were notified of GSA's intent to nominate the above referenced property to the National Register of Historic Places by letters dated November 10, 2016. No response comments were received. The Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office reviewed the nomination and concurs that property meets the National Register criteria, as evidenced by the signature on the enclosed coversheet.

If for any reason any nomination package that GSA submits needs to be returned, please do so by a delivery service as items returned to our offices via regular mail are irradiated and the materials severely damaged. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this nomination package, please contact Sherry Frear at (202) 501- 0812 or sherry.frear@gsa.gov.

Sincerely,

Beth L. Savage
Federal Preservation Officer
Director, Center for Historic Buildings

Enclosures

cc: Audrey Entorf, Regional Historic Preservation Officer
Claudette Stager, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405-0002
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