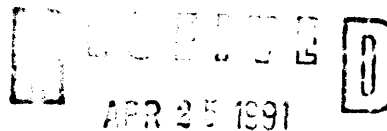


United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



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 Hoquiam Main Post Office

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 620 Eighth Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Hoquiam

N/A vicinity

state Washington code WA county Grays Harbor code 027 zip code 98550

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
public-local
public-State
public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
district
site
structure
object

Number of Resources within Property

Table with columns: Contributing, Noncontributing, buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total. Values: 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1.

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 of certifying official: [Signature] Date: 1-11-90 State or Federal agency and bureau: U.S. Postal Service

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

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
determined eligible for the National Register.
determined not eligible for the National Register.
removed from the National Register.
other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper: [Signature] Date of Action: 5/30/91

for 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)

Neo-Classical Revival

Other: Art Deco

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Stucco

Brick

roof Asphalt shingle

other Tar composition

Sandstone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Three stories in height, the Hoquiam Main Post Office rests on a raised reinforced concrete foundation which is supported by timber pilings. Structural steel framing with concrete and brick walls support the structure. The exterior walls are faced with stucco (covering the original brick exterior) and trimmed with sandstone. Five bays divide the symmetrically-arranged front facade--three bays in the slightly recessed central section and one in each of the flanking wings. Sandstone pilasters divide the bays and support a sandstone entablature which separates the second and third stories. Terminating the facade is a decorative aluminum cheneau. The hipped portion of the roof is clad with asphalt shingles and the flat portions are built-up tar composition.

PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The five-bay front facade (southeast) is flat, symmetrical, and classically proportioned. The facade is divided into three sections--the three-bay center and single-bay flanking wings. The wings project slightly beyond the center and the corners. Two flat sandstone pilasters divide the three center bays. Half-width pilasters flank the bays and define the juncture of the center section and flanking wings. The pilasters rise from the dressed sandstone platform to a sandstone entablature which divides the second and third stories. Flat capitals in a dart and dagger motif (Art Deco flavor) adorn the pilasters while an incised fretwork pattern suggests the architrave molding. The frieze is plain and the molded cornice projects slightly. The shortened third story is terminated by a molded aluminum cheneau (recessed panel pattern) resting on a sandstone belt course. Rising behind the cheneau is a low hipped roof clad with asphalt shingles.

The facade's central section is dominated by three slightly recessed bays which rise from the foundation platform to the second floor entablature. The entry consists of double aluminum-framed glass doors (bronze anodized). Two-panel aluminum-framed side lights flank the

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 HOQUIAM MPO

entry doors (also framed in anodized aluminum). A flat, stucco-faced marquee extends over the entry. Aluminum-framed four-panel wire glass sidewalls support the marquee. (The entrance was revised in 1975, when the doors were changed and the marquee and glass-panel sidewalls were added.) Seven granite steps and landing, flanked by sandstone buttresses, provide access to the main entry. Single cast-iron lanterns rest atop each of the flanking buttresses.

Above the marquee is a fixed fifteen-light transom window. Thick molded mullions extend through the second floor window and divide the windows into three vertical sections. In addition, a thick molded rail divides the transom into five-light upper and ten-light lower sections. A fifteen-panel wooden spandrel extends from the transom to the second floor window--double-hung, six-over-six-light, wood sash flanked by four-light side-lights.

On each side of the entry bay is an identically-sized window bay (treated similarly to the entry bay). The first-floor windows consist of nine-over-nine-light, double-hung, wood sash flanked by six-light sidelights. A narrow three-light window section flanked by single side-lights is above the main window section (same as over entry marquee). Three-section flat wooden panels are between the sandstone sills and sandstone water table. The spandrels and the second floor windows are identical to the entry bay.

Projecting slightly beyond the facade plane (central section and corners), the end wings are further defined by one-half-width flat sandstone pilasters on the interior corners. The previously described entablature corresponds to the facade articulation. Centered in the wings, the first floor windows are set within niches which extend from the water table to terminating segmental arches. Resting on sandstone sills, the sash is double-hung wood with twelve-over-twelve-lights. The second-floor windows are eight-over-eight-light, double-hung, wood sash. Fronting these windows are wrought-iron balconies which extend below the sandstone sills.

The five flat-arched third floor bays are aligned over the lower bays and rest on the entablature cornice. All are eight-over-eight-light, double-hung, wood sash.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2 HOQUIAM MPO

The side facades are flat and, with the exception of the window arrangement, are identical to each other. The use of materials is the same as the front. The southwest facade is divided into four flat-arched window bays--two closely-spaced near the center and one near each corner. The out-side bays are recessed and extend from the water table to the entablature. Except for the rear bay (four-over-four-light, wood sash), the first floor sash is double-hung wood with twelve-over-twelve-lights. The second-floor windows are aligned over those of the first floor and are eight-over-eight-light, double-hung wood sash. The third floor contains three bays aligned over the corresponding bays of the lower floors. They are double-hung with eight-over-eight-lights.

The window arrangement of the northeast facade is asymmetrical. The outside bay niches are wider than the southwest and contain paired windows. In the central portion, there is one mezzanine-level window and one third-floor window. The first-floor window pair in the front corner consists of twelve-over-twelve-light, double-hung wood sash. Aligned above, are paired eight-over-eight-light, double-hung wood sash windows on the second floor. Flat sandstone sills and flat brick arches frame the windows. The centered mezzanine window is eight-over-eight-light, double-hung wood. The rear corner bay sash is also paired. As originally constructed, two windows occupied the bay at the ground floor level (the boiler room occupies this area of the building since a full basement could not be constructed). One of the windows was replaced by a door to provide outside access to the boiler room. The original window is eight-over-eight-light, double-hung wood sash. Paired eight-over-eight-light, double-hung wood sash windows at mezzanine level are aligned above. In the second floor is an eight-over-eight-light, wood sash windows and a brick-filled niche (original construction). Two windows occupy the third floor. Aligned over the outside bays they are identical to the southwest facade. Centered between the windows is a molded stone panel.

The rear facade is symmetrical, U-shaped in plan, and detailed similarly to the front and sides. Extending rearward from the recessed central portion of the facade and beyond the wings is the single-story workroom extension and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3 HOQUIAM MPO

open loading platform. Covered by a flat tar composition roof, the tile coping which terminates the workroom facade corresponds to the sill line of the second floor windows. The sides of the extension are identical to each other and contain two flat-arched window bays: twelve-over-twelve-light, double-hung wood sash with a four-light transom window above. The rear of the workroom is symmetrically-arranged. Projecting from the workroom wall is the mailing vestibule which contains two double-door loading bays. The side walls of the vestibule contain single four-over-four-light, double-hung wood sash windows. Flanking the vestibule in the workroom wall are wide eight-over-eight-light, double-hung wood sash windows. A flat metal roof overhangs the platform and is supported by steel posts. Above the platform roof are four equally-spaced eight-light, fixed wood sash windows. In the recessed portion of the main facade, above the workroom are three eight-over-eight-light, double-hung wood sash windows on each side of the second and third floors.

The projecting wings each contain two bays. The first floor of the west wing contains a twelve-over-twelve-light, double-hung wood sash window and a solid metal door with a fixed, twelve-light transom window above. Between the two bays is a small four-over-four-light, double-hung wood sash window. The bays of the second and third floors are identical to each other. The outside bays contain eight-over-eight-light, double-hung wood sash while the inside bays consist of windowless niches. The east wing contains four tiers of windows. The bottom corresponds to the boiler room and contains a single eight-over-eight-light, double-hung wood sash window. The second tier, at the mezzanine level, contains two eight-over-eight-light, double-hung wood sash windows. The second and third floor windows are aligned over the mezzanine level windows and are identical to them.

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

1932-1941

Significant Dates

Site acq.-1930

Const.-1932

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Wetmore, James A., Acting Supervising Architect/Federal Government

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

The Hoquiam MPO is a well-preserved and relatively unaltered example of a combined post office and federal office building. Although the original brick exterior has been covered with stucco (apparently done shortly after construction), the building retains its design integrity. Built in the early years of the Depression, the building adheres to its Beaux-Arts roots, but does, however, begin to suggest the reduction of detailing that characterized the buildings of the mid- to late-Depression. The building, in its proximity and similarity in design to (and perhaps influenced by) the Hoquiam City Hall, is included in an ensemble of buildings that form the civic core of the city. The building is also the first federally-constructed post office in the city and thus the city's first manifestation of the federal presence. Finally, the building is a legacy of the successful lobbying efforts of local civic groups and their hometown congressman to gain a federal building.

ARCHITECTURE

Except for the plastering of the original brick exterior and the addition of a main entry marquee, the Hoquiam MPO is essentially unaltered. (The plastering was done soon after construction and may have been an attempt to prevent rain leaking into the building.)

The floor plan and design of the post office are based on standardized plans developed by the Office of the Supervising Architect. The building is typical of the federal design style that was used in post offices and federal buildings through the first two decades of the Twentieth Century. It is rooted in the Beaux-Arts tradition that expressed the philosophy of the federal architects. This tradition,

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

1. Washingtonian (Hoquiam); various articles 1929 - 1932.
2. Original Building Plans; 1931.
3. Construction Progress Photograph; 1 September 1932 (original brick).
4. Harvey, David W. & Krafft, Katheryn H. "Historic Resources Survey and Inventory of the Cities of Aberdeen and Hoquiam, Washington." 1987-1988.

See continuation sheet

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 # _____

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

Acreege of property 0.64

UTM References

A 1 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 0
 Zone Easting Northing

C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
 Zone Easting Northing

D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Southeasterly one-half of Lot 10 & Lots 11, 12 & 13, Block 46, Hoquiam Corrected Plat. The site is on the Northeast corner of M Street and 8th Street. Beginning at the Southwest corner, thence N175', E160', S175', W160' 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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1 HOQUIAM MPO

though showing some influence by the International design style that would dominate federal architecture and culminate in the Starved Classicism of the mid- to late-1930s, was still evident in the buildings of the early-1930s. In the Hoquiam design the facade articulation is, in some respects, similar to that of the former Aberdeen Federal Building that was completed in 1918. The Classical influence is apparent in the front facade's symmetry, proportion, and use of historic architectural detailing. The contrasting sandstone pilasters and pronounced entablature dividing the second and third stories are also derived from traditional features; the ornamentation of the capitals, frieze, and cheneau, however, is relatively flat and suggests the Art Deco influence. It might be noted that the design, scale, and detailing of the MPO reflect the design character of the Hoquiam City Hall (brick, Art Deco, 1929) which is on the north corner of Eighth and L Streets. As a distinctive and significant building type in the city's architectural legacy, it is locally significant under Criterion C.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

The building represents the federal presence in the community and was Hoquiam's first federally-constructed post office/federal building. The building is transitional in that the effort to secure appropriations began prior to the onset of the Depression, construction did not begin until 1931, and the building was not completed until 1932. Thus, although the building's construction served to aid local unemployed, it was a precursor to the massive federal building programs which would shortly follow under Roosevelt's New Deal. Hoquiam had experienced substantial growth between 1900 and 1920, but was unable to gain a federal appropriation because of the priorities of World War I. In fact, when Congressman Albert Johnson attempted to gain a \$125,000 appropriation in February 1916, some local citizens denounced the appropriation bill as "pork" (The Aberdeen Daily World, 2/10/1916). Over a decade later, the Hoquiam Chamber of Commerce was pushing for the building. Indeed, it was moving against the advise of the local postmaster who felt that a larger appropriation than had been authorized in the Public Buildings Act of 1926 could be obtained if Congressman Johnson was allowed to move at his pace. It was even request-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2 HOQUIAM MPO

ing lobbying support from the Seattle Chamber. Even after bids for the building had been called, the Chamber continued to work for an increased appropriation. It also called for the use of Washington sandstone. But, the priority was to employ local workers so the project moved forward. The building signifies the link to the federal government and represents the efforts of local civic groups and their hometown congressman to gain a federal building for their city. Although preceding the New Deal, the building is a legacy of the accelerated programs of President Hoover to provide employment during the early stage of the Depression. Thus, the building is locally significant under Criterion A.

LOCAL CONTEXT

Hoquiam, with an estimated 1987 population of 9,020, is twelve miles east of the Pacific entrance to Grays Harbor. Hoquiam, Aberdeen (with which it shares adjacent boundaries), and Cosmopolis form the commercial/industrial core of Grays Harbor County and share a total population of 27,565 (1987). The Grays Harbor area was first explored by Captain Robert Gray when he sailed into the harbor on May 7, 1792. He named the area Bullfinch Harbor, but the harbor was later renamed Grays Harbor by Captain Vancouver, who subsequently visited the area. William O'Learly settled in the area in 1848. In the summer of 1858 the township embracing the mouth of the Hoquiam River was surveyed by government engineers. The township was then opened for settlement. In 1859 James and Henry Karr established a homestead and others soon followed. Fishing and timber production became the primary industries (and remain so today). The first post office was established by Edward Campbell on December 13, 1867. The city was incorporated in 1890 and a period of rapid growth ensued.

By 1910 the city's population had reached 8,171 and Hoquiam was a "modern city"; five of the largest saw mills in the northwest were located in the city. In 1920 Hoquiam's population grew to 10,058. The late 1920s and 1930s saw a mood of optimism in the city in spite of the beginnings of the Depression era. The 1930 census showed another period of growth with a population of 12,766. The new city hall and a church had just been completed in the immediate vicinity of the recently acquired post office site, a majestic new movie

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3 HOQUIAM MPO

theater was under construction, and a new YMCA, pulp mill, and chair factory were soon to be constructed. The Olympia highway loop was scheduled for completion in the fall of 1930 and an expenditure of over \$6.5 million was proposed for a new railroad to reach into new timber tracts. Hoquiam was also slated for a \$75,000 Northern Pacific Railroad terminal. The lumber industry, however, was unstable, but expected to recover. The recovery did not come and by 1931, Hoquiam became heavily depressed. Many of the mills closed, never to reopen. In the 1930s the city lost about 2,000 residents and the 1940 census showed a population of 10,835. Sustained yield forestry, reforestation, plywood, and pulp became the new industrial base with new fisheries and recreation adding employment in the following years. Hoquiam grew slightly in the 1950 census, to 11,123, but since then has experienced slight but steady decline, to 10,762 in 1960 to 10,466 1970 to 9,719 in 1980.

The post office fronts along Eighth Street in the southwestern edge of the city's business district. Within the post office block are modern two-story frame apartments to the rear (northwest and north) and one- and two-story commercial buildings to the northeast (architecturally unremarkable). A church (1928) is on the corner across M Street to the southwest. A modern frame office building and single-family residence are north of the church. Across Eighth to the southeast is the modern Hoquiam fire station, with the city hall adjacent to its east (constructed in 1929 and similar in design to the post office).

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

According to a Hoquiam Washingtonian article of January 28, 1929, the efforts to secure a post office/federal building for the city had been taking place for some years. The article reported that the Hoquiam Chamber of Commerce had taken action on the preceding Friday by adopting a resolution urging immediate action to secure a federal building for the city. It was noted by Postmaster R. L. Philbrick that haste by the Chamber might cost the city \$50,000 in additional appropriations. Philbrick stated that Congressman Albert Johnson, members of the Postal Department, and others were working to secure a larger building than was provided in the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 4 HOQUIAM MPO

Public Buildings Act of 1926. He further related that no town or city had received a federal building since the war except some recommended and underway in 1916. No public building bill had been before Congress since the close of the war until 1926 when a five-year building program was approved in the fall of that year. Hoquiam was included in the second year quota with an appropriation of \$105,000. Philbrick felt that the \$105,000 appropriation was inadequate since Aberdeen (Hoquiam's neighboring city) had received \$150,000 for its post office 15 years before. Costs had increased and the volume of business had expanded thereby justifying an additional \$50,000. Finally, Philbrick urged cooperation with the committee and things not be hurried too rapidly, so that a larger appropriation could be secured.

An article of January 30th reported that the Chamber was pushing ahead for a new building and that the cautious approach advised by Philbrick was inadvisable. The Chamber was requesting the aid of the Seattle Chamber in securing the appropriation. The opening of bids for a post office site was announced on April 24th. Four offers were submitted ranging in price from \$7,000 to \$51,163. Previous to that, the city had offered two lots at the corner of Seventh and L Streets for a price of \$7,000 (as reported on April 18th).

Articles of June 22nd and June 25th reported that post office officials urged the citizens of Hoquiam to get together on a generally satisfactory site and submit a site of suitable dimensions and price within the next few days. Otherwise the appropriation would be further delayed. After several months, the Washingtonian reported that the post office would be built at once. According to Congressman Johnson, as soon as title cleared on the site at Eighth and M Streets, construction would be authorized.

The year of 1930 began with anticipation of the new federal building. On January 10th it was reported that construction would soon begin; its start merely awaited the word from Washington, D.C. Local Chamber officials urged that members communicate with Senators and Representatives, urging immediate action. An article of January 28th reported that members of the Chamber had urged Congressman Johnson to use his influence to expedite post office construction.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5 HOQUIAM MPO

On February 8th communication from Johnson indicated that the building would not be started soon: "Architects of the Treasury Department have informed me directly that we cannot expect the Hoquiam Federal Building to be advanced faster than other buildings for which monies have been appropriated in the last few years." Johnson also stated that he had received some complaints regarding the site location and pointed out that he had nothing to do with its selection. On March 28th it was reported that, after long discussion, the Chamber of Commerce had assisted in the ironing out of red tape in the site purchase.

On March 30th Congressman Johnson indicated that it would be inadvisable to delay work on the federal building in the hopes of securing additional appropriation. It had been hoped that additional appropriations could be obtained for the location of a branch of the federal court in Hoquiam.

Several articles of April (3rd, 24th, 27th, and 30th) and May (15th and 16th) reported the progress on the federal building. The site survey had begun and the Chamber urged the use of local materials and labor in the construction of the \$135,000 building. News of the federal building again surfaced in November (7th, 19th, and 23rd) and December (10th and 25th). Early work on the federal building was held to be unlikely and it was not expected that work would begin until April 1, 1931. The federal government, however, had ordered the occupants of the site to vacate (improvements on-site included a billboard, two frame apartment buildings, and a frame shop).

On January 15, 1931, the contract to remove the on-site structures was let to Elmer Irwin of the city. An article of February 25th announced that construction bids would soon be let. Another of the same date described the plans of the new building. Brick of ruffled texture of light greyish shades with a blending of pinkish buff, tans, purples, yellows, and oranges with light grey sandstone trim would be used for the three-story structure.

An article of March 24th reported that 19 contractors had expressed interest in receiving the documents. On April 2nd the Washingtonian reported that William T. Post of Tacoma was the low and winning bidder of the 13 bids submitted; his

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6 HOQUIAM MPO

bid was \$120,900. On April 2nd Alex Polson, former state senator from Grays Harbor County, urged that Washington sandstone be used for the new building. The following day (April 3) the Washingtonian reported that a local building committee was to confer with federal officials to expand the size of the building. The present plans and specifications were held to be inadequate for the requirements of the various agencies which would occupy the building. It was, however, felt that any changes would cause delay in work which had been hastened to aid unemployment. On April 4th Mr. Post announced that he would give preference to local labor and materials. An article of April 6th reported that more delay would be encountered since the low bid was considered to be too high.

A May 15th article reported that work would begin soon. The contract had been renegotiated down to \$118,900. It was also stated that more windows than originally planned would be added (it might be noted that the original plans do show fewer windows on the side elevations than were constructed). On May 31st it was announced that work would begin within the week. A June 2nd article reported that Congressman Johnson was in the city and it was his opinion that "the building will be the handsomest federal building in western Washington and will outrank the finest building on the Harbor."

Articles of May 11th and 18th reported that excavation had begun and that pile driving would soon follow. The impressive "cornerstone ceremony was reported in the September 22nd edition of the Washingtonian. The "historic event" was seen by hundreds, the Mason's Grand Master Thomas N. Askren of Seattle presided, James P. H. Callahan delivered the main address, Congressman Albert Johnson made a short address, and the bugle and drum corps of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the high school orchestra provided music.

Construction was halted on September 25th. The paper surmised that lack of materials was the cause. On October 30th work was again halted for an indefinite period. An agreement was being worked out between the contractor and bonding company, but major differences existed. It was later revealed that the bonding company had withdrawn all financial support to the contractor (as a result of labor and financial difficulties). An article of November 27th reported that the

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 7 HOQUIAM MPO

contract had been taken over by the bonding company and that new bids would be let to complete the job. Cahill Brothers of San Francisco was awarded the new contract, as reported on December 30th.

According to a January 5, 1932 article, work was resumed on the building. Work would be carried out rapidly with the use of local labor. An article of July 27th reported that the U.S. flag had been flown over the federal building the day before for the first time, in commemoration of the initiation of the U.S. Postal Service 157 years before. The article also stated that formal dedication was expected in the fall. Plans for the dedication ceremony were discussed in the September 27th issue.

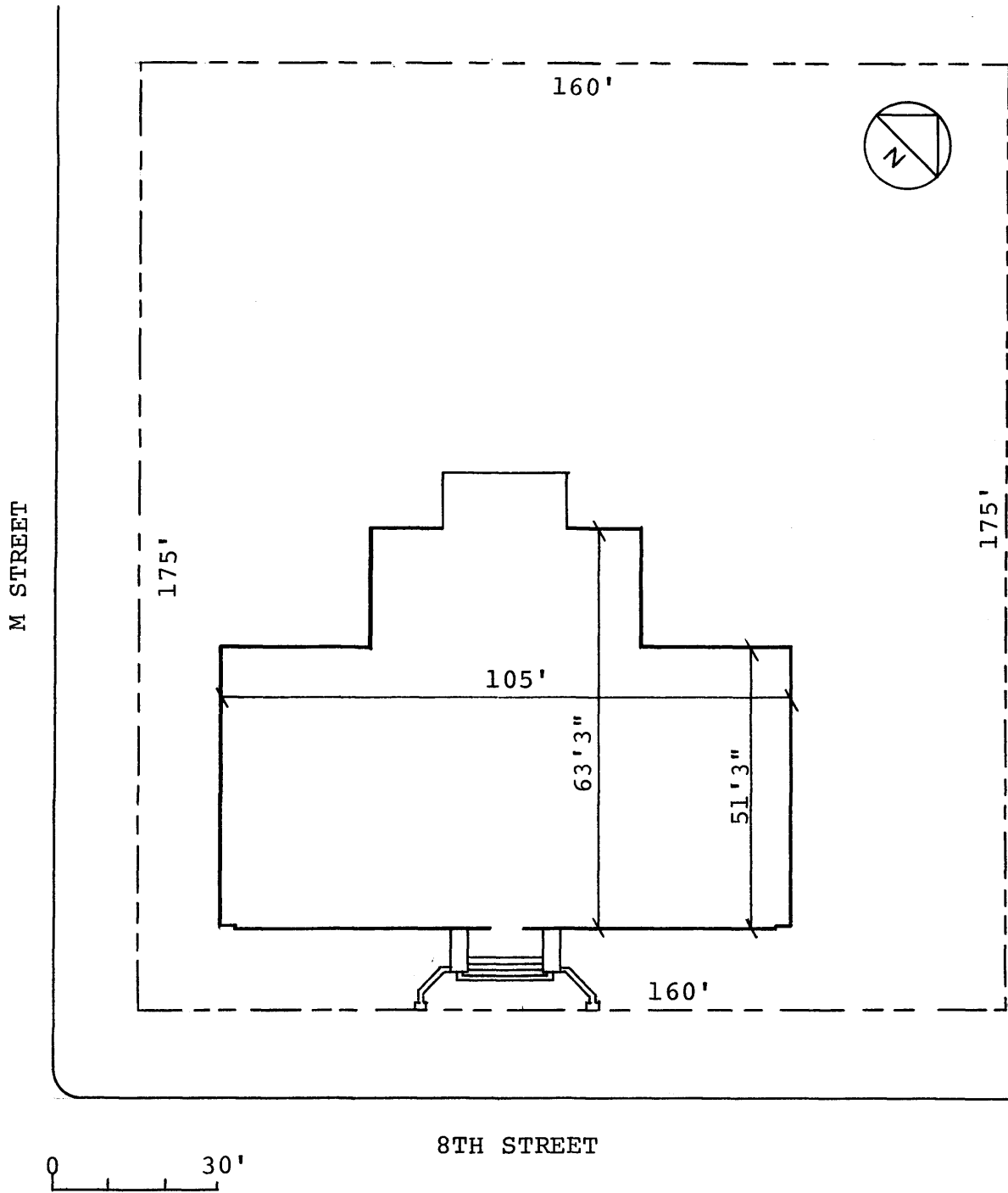
On October 1st it was reported that William A. Newman, San Francisco district engineer of the Treasury Department, had inspected the building. According to Newman: "There are many new federal buildings being constructed in my district at this time but this is one of the finest--better than the one Los Angeles has now, for instance." On November 19th water damage from a recent storm was reported (the problem continues to this day).

Finally, as reported on December 6th, the new post office was under operation; the postal department had moved from its home of the past 18 years to the new quarters the day before. The dedication ceremonies were held on December 7th. Music was furnished by the Hoquiam High School band, a \$30,000 stamp collection was exhibited, Indian exhibitions by the Taholah Indian Agency (which occupied the upper floors) were located throughout the building, souvenir programs were printed, and post cards of the new building on spruce veneer were presented to visitors.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1 HOQUIAM MPO



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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photos Page 1 HOQUIAM MPO

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

1. Hoquiam MPO
2. Hoquiam, Washington
3. Jim Kolva
4. December 1984
5. Negatives on file at USPS Facilities Service Center, San Bruno, CA.

Photo No. 1 (negative #2)

6. View to north

Photo No. 2 (negative #3)

6. View to northwest

Photo No. 3 (negative #5)

6. View to west