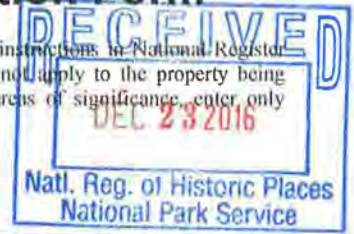


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

36626

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Federal Building, U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Other names/site number: George Howard, Jr., Federal Building and United States Courthouse; Site #JE0813
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 100 E. 8th Street
City or town: Pine Bluff State: Arkansas County: Jefferson
Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

 X A B X C D

	<u>12/21/2016</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. General Services Admin.</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> meets <u> </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
	<u>12-14-16</u>
Signature of commenting official:	Date
<u>Director and State Historic Preservation Officer, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program</u>	
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

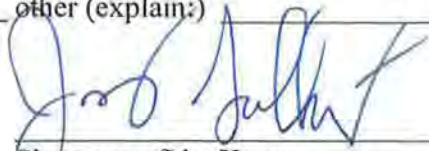
U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
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4. National Park Service Certification

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
for

2.7.2017
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

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Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- GOVERNMENT/post office
- GOVERNMENT/courthouse
- GOVERNMENT/government office
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

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Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT/post office
GOVERNMENT/courthouse
GOVERNMENT/government office

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT/International Style

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK, GLASS

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in Pine Bluff is a three-story International-style building built in 1965-1967 and designed by Erhart, Eichenbaum, Rauch & Blass and Brueggeman and Landauer & Associates, and built by Warrior Construction, Inc. The square-planned building features a steel frame and curtain walls of glass covering most of the building's façades. One-story projections on the west and east façades are covered in buff brick and an open one-story loading dock is located on the building's south façade. The building is topped by a flat roof. The area around the building was redeveloped as part of urban renewal and there are newer buildings, open space, and parking lots to the north, east, and south of the building, including the Pine Bluff Civic Center (NR-listed June 1, 2005) to the east. Main Street lies to the west of the building.

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Narrative Description

The U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in Pine Bluff is a three-story International-style building located on a site to the south of downtown that is bounded by East 8th Street on the north, South State Street on the east, East 9th Street on the south, and South Main Street on the west. The building was built in 1965-1967 and designed by Erhart, Eichenbaum, Rauch & Blass and Brueggeman and Landauer & Associates, and built by Warrior Construction, Inc. The square-planned building features a steel frame and the main block of the building is covered with curtain walls of glass that cover most of the building's façades. One-story projections on the west and east façades are covered in buff brick and have evenly-spaced windows. An open one-story loading dock is located on the building's south façade. The building is topped by a flat roof.

The area around the building was redeveloped as part of urban renewal during the 1960s to eliminate sub-standard commercial and residential development. As a result, there are newer buildings, open space, and parking lots to the north, south, and east of the building, including the Pine Bluff Civic Center (NR-listed June 1, 2005). Main Street, the historic commercial corridor of the city, lies to the west of the building.

Front/North Façade

The building's north façade faces East 8th Street, a boulevard street with median that is the main access into the redeveloped area of Pine Bluff. The main, three-story, block of the building consists of twelve bays separated by cast-concrete engaged pilasters. Most of the bays on the first floor contain three sets of windows comprised of a small rectangular stationary window on the bottom with two large, stationary, square windows above. The main entrance to the building is located in the sixth bay from the east end and has a set of automatic sliding doors flanked on each side by a pair of large, stationary, square windows. A flat-roofed awning shelters the entrance, and it says "UNITED STATES POST OFFICE / 71601" in metal letters on the front.

The second floor in each bay is fenestrated by three large opaque panels with a pair of sliding windows above each. The third floor matches the second floor with the exception of having small opaque panels above the sliding windows. Above the third floor a cast-concrete cornice encircles the building.

On the first floor, the last bay to the west is covered by the first-floor projection covered in buff brick. The north side of the projection is fenestrated by two bays of windows. Each bay has a rectangular opaque panel on the bottom with a two-pane stationary window on top with a rectangular opaque panel above it. At the east edge of the projection is the building's cornerstone which reads: "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA / LYNDON B. JOHNSON / PRESIDENT / GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION / LAWSON B. KNOTT JR. / ADMINISTRATOR / 1966."

At the east end of the building is the north façade of the one-story projection on the building's east side. The projection is devoid of fenestration on the north, but has The Great Seal of the United States at the top. Underneath, it says "GEORGE HOWARD, JR. / FEDERAL

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BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE” in letters installed in 2008 when the building’s new name was enacted.

Side/East Façade

The building’s east façade on the first floor has four bays at the north end containing three sets of windows comprised of a small rectangular stationary window on the bottom with two large, stationary, square windows above. The side entrance to the building is located in the second bay from the north end and has two sets of doors flanked on each side by a pair of rectangular windows.

The rest of the first floor is comprised of the one-story projection covered in buff brick. The north half of the projection is fenestrated by eight bays of windows. Each bay has a rectangular opaque panel on the bottom with a two-pane stationary window on top with a rectangular opaque panel above it. The south half of the projection is devoid of fenestration.

The second and third floors are each comprised of ten bays separated by cast-concrete engaged pilasters, and each bay is fenestrated by three large opaque panels with a pair of sliding windows above each. The third floor matches the second floor with the exception of having small opaque panels above the sliding windows. Above the third floor a cast-concrete cornice encircles the building.

Rear/South Façade

The first floor of the south façade is dominated by the open loading dock. The wall along the back of the loading dock is covered in buff brick. Beginning at the east end of the wall, the loading dock has two sets of double swinging doors with square windows in the top half and rubber bumpers on the bottom half. Proceeding west is a single entrance door followed by a square stationary window, which is followed by two more sets of swinging doors. Near the west end is another single door followed by two more sets of swinging doors. The loading dock’s roof is supported by six evenly-spaced columns along the south edge.

The south façade of the main, three-story block of the building consists of twelve bays separated by concrete engaged pilasters. The second floor in each bay is fenestrated by three large opaque panels with a pair of sliding windows above each. The third floor matches the second floor with the exception of having small opaque panels above the sliding windows. Above the third floor a cast-concrete cornice encircles the building.

Side/West Façade

The building’s west façade is comprised of the one-story projection covered in buff brick. The north half of the projection is fenestrated by fourteen bays of windows. Each bay has a rectangular opaque panel on the bottom with a two-pane stationary window on top with a rectangular opaque panel above it. The northernmost bay is an exception having a single-door entrance rather than windows. The south half of the projection is devoid of fenestration with the exception of a recessed double-door entrance. The doors are surrounded by small rectangular windows.

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The second and third floors are each comprised of ten bays separated by cast-concrete engaged pilasters, and each bay is fenestrated by three large opaque panels with a pair of sliding windows above each. The third floor matches the second floor with the exception of having small opaque panels above the sliding windows. Above the third floor a cast-concrete cornice encircles the building.

Integrity

Since the time of its construction in 1965-1967, the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in Pine Bluff has undergone very few alterations. According to the General Services Administration, “alterations have generally been isolated to asbestos abatement, life safety and accessibility improvements, and elevator, lighting, and security upgrades.”¹ The interior layouts of the floors have also remained the same with some repartitioning of office spaces on the second and third floors. The setting of the building also reflects the time of its construction in the 1960s. The area surrounding the building still contains the mixture of commercial, residential, and civic buildings that were present when the building was built. Although a landscape plan for the area was designed by Edward Durell Stone, Jr., in October 1964, very little of the plan was ultimately carried out. As a result, the building is still easily able to reflect those qualities that make the building significant.

¹ Clow, Victoria. Determination of Eligibility for the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in the files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. 2015.

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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 grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1965-1967

Significant Dates

1965-1967

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Erhart, Eichenbaum, Rauch & Blass, Architects

Brueggeman and Landauer & Associates, Architects

Warrior Construction Inc., Builder

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C**. The Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse is a good example of the commercial work of the noted Arkansas architecture firms of Erhart, Eichenbaum, Rauch & Blass and Brueggeman and Landauer & Associates, and is one of the few large-scale buildings in central Pine Bluff that exhibits characteristics of the International style. The combined post office and courthouse was erected at a time when federal office space was in high demand nationally after World War II and new facilities were necessary to accommodate this need. Its style was indicative of the Modern Movement with clean lines and being void of the unnecessary trappings of ornamentation. This design approach and the almost complete reliance on private architects by the federal government for development of new federal facilities typified this era in the federal public building program. As a consequence, the Pine Bluff building was a part of the post-war national trend where an increased need for federal facilities combined with a modern efficient approach to design and the use of private architects resulted in the construction of a number of public facilities across the country.

The Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse is also significant for its associations with the role of urban renewal in Pine Bluff. The Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse was built on a formerly swampy area that had been occupied by substandard housing and businesses. The construction of the Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse represents the pivotal role of urban renewal in modernizing and revitalizing Pine Bluff's downtown in the 1960s. As a result, the Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse is also being nominated to the National Register with **local significance** under **Criterion A**.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

HISTORY OF THE PROPERTY

The first settlement in Pine Bluff occurred circa 1819 when Joseph Bonne brought his family up the Arkansas River from Arkansas Post and built a log cabin on the south side of the river on the high bluff covered with pine trees on the edge of the coastal plain. A few years later, James Scull, who had first settled Arkansas Post, also brought his family to the area, but settled on the river's north bank. Scull built a small tavern and inn, and was appointed the postmaster of Pine Bluff on January 25, 1828. Jefferson County, which was named after Thomas Jefferson and formed from parts of Pulaski and Arkansas counties, was created by an act of the territorial legislature on November 17, 1829.²

The growth of Pine Bluff was slow at first, and the city had less than 400 residents when it was incorporated on December 12, 1848. However, once manufacturing began in the community

² James W. Leslie. *Pine Bluff and Jefferson County: A Pictorial History*. Norfolk, VA: Donning Company, Publishers, 1981, pp. 15, 17-18.

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with the opening of a foundry in 1850 by Henry Cloyes, Pine Bluff began to develop rapidly, especially after 1870 with the end of the Civil War and Reconstruction. In fact, the Bell & Bocage works, which burned in 1873, were the largest south of St. Louis, and the J. W. Bocage & Company foundry and machine shops, which were built in 1879, were one of the largest works in the region.³ The late-nineteenth century growth of Pine Bluff was also aided by the arrival of the Little Rock, Pine Bluff and New Orleans Railroad in December 1873, which connected the city with the Mississippi River.⁴

As the twentieth century dawned in Pine Bluff, the rapid economic growth that had occurred in the nineteenth century as a result of the railroad began to slow somewhat although river traffic was revived after the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredged the river.⁵ However, World War I brought more growth to the area, especially in the farming sectors, as the need for cotton fiber brought a boom to the cotton industry. Another period of economic growth also occurred in the mid-1920s with new industry coming to the area, and it caused Pine Bluff to further expand, especially to the southwest.⁶

Like the rest of the nation, Pine Bluff experienced a period of extreme contrasts during the 1930s and 1940s. The Depression, which was coupled with a disastrous drought that caused crop failures, dealt a tremendous blow to the Jefferson County economy. However, Farm Security Administration projects at Lake Dick (NR listed 07/03/75) and the Plum Bayou Homesteads (NR listed 06/05/75) did provide a little glimmer of hope as the 1930s came to a close.⁷

However, it was the arrival of World War II in the 1940s that really helped Pine Bluff get back on its feet. The establishment of Grider Field, a flight instruction facility southeast of the city, and the Pine Bluff Arsenal north of the city, which was one of the nation's largest chemical warfare production plants, brought a tremendous boom to the economy. As GIs and other people migrated to the area it brought a boom to the building industry in order to provide housing for the city's new residents. Even after the end of the war, new industry along with new residents came to the area, keeping the city's economy vibrant through the 1950s and into the 1960s.⁸

It was during this period of economic vibrancy and optimism that it was decided to look at constructing a new civic center for the city. Another impetus that brought about the development of the Civic Center, along with the other public buildings in the area, was the growing popularity of urban renewal. Urban renewal, which reached its popularity in the United States from the 1940s through the 1970s, was seen as a way to redevelop and improve areas that had been blighted by residential slums and commercial areas. Although large areas were demolished and

³ *Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Pulaski, Jefferson, Lonoke, Faulkner, Grant, Saline, Perry, Garland, and Hot Spring Counties, Arkansas*. Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1889, pp. 134-135.

⁴ Leslie, p. 42.

⁵ Leslie, p. 109.

⁶ Leslie, p. 151.

⁷ Leslie, p. 173.

⁸ Leslie, p. 185, 195.

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replaced by housing projects, highways, and vacant lots, and some cities were revitalized, it often resulted in the destruction of vibrant, although run-down, neighborhoods.⁹

In Pine Bluff, an urban renewal agency was formed in 1961 in order to redevelop an area east of Main Street that was located on swampy ground and consisted of substandard housing. In order to pay for the cost of the Civic Center a bond issue was passed in 1962. In addition to the Civic Center, a federal building and city park (also landscaped by Edward Durell Stone, Jr.) were developed as part of the renewal of the area.¹⁰

The block that the federal building is built on first appears, at least partially, on the 1896 Sanborn map for Pine Bluff. The western half of the block had three houses at the north end of it. In 1901, the first year that the entire block is covered by the Sanborn maps. Houses were present on about three-quarters of the block – the southwestern quarter was vacant – and they seemed to have been built somewhat randomly in the southeast quarter of the block. The southeast quarter of the block also housed a small grocery store. Interestingly, 8th and 9th streets didn't connect all the way through to State Street, but only went about halfway through the block. The streets would not connect through until the 1913 Sanborn map. Also, by 1913, the southwest quarter of the block had been developed with offices, a general store, and The Fairview House.¹¹

By 1950, the last year that a Sanborn map was completed for Pine Bluff, the character of the block had changed significantly. The block was mainly commercial in nature with a filling station on the northwest corner, and a large garage in the southwest quarter. The southeast corner housed one auto repair shop, two auto body repair shops, a boat motor repair shop, and a furniture store. The remaining dwellings were concentrated in the northeast quarter of the block and facing Ralph Street, an arbitrary street in the center of the block that first appeared as a named street on the 1920 Sanborn map.¹²

Although the current U.S. Post Office and Courthouse was built in the 1960s, Pine Bluff received its first federal building in the first part of the twentieth century. On June 12, 1903, the Post Office Department purchased a lot on the northeast corner of West 2nd Avenue and Walnut Street, although it would not be until February 21, 1908, when a contract was let with Jacob Althus of St. Louis to construct the building. The building originally housed the Post Office and offices of other federal agencies. By the time that the building was opened in early August of 1909, it had cost \$75,000 to build. An addition was built on the building's east side in 1933 and it remained Pine Bluff's Post Office and federal building until the current building was built.¹³

⁹ Information on urban renewal found at: http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Urban_renewal.aspx.

¹⁰ "Pine Bluff Festival of Progress," *The Delta Review*, July 1968, pp. 73-78. Found in the Edward Durell Stone Papers at the University of Arkansas Libraries Special Collections.

¹¹ Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Pine Bluff, Arkansas: 1896, 1901, 1908, 1913, and 1920.

¹² Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Pine Bluff, Arkansas: 1920 and 1950.

¹³ Leslie, James W. *Pine Bluff and Jefferson County: A Pictorial History*. Norfolk, VA: Donning Company, Publishers, 1981, p. 132. The building is currently used by the Jefferson County Board of Education.

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Securing the funding for the construction of the Pine Bluff Federal Building was occurring at the same time as the City of Pine Bluff was working on the funding to build the Civic Center. In October 1963, an independent office spending bill approved by the House Appropriations Committee included \$152,540,700 for the construction of 27 federal building projects across the country with approximately \$2,075,400 set aside for the Pine Bluff Federal Building.¹⁴

The money to purchase the site of the proposed federal building was received by the Pine Bluff Urban Renewal Authority in 1965. A report in the *Northwest Arkansas Times* stated that “The Pine Bluff Urban Renewal Authority received Wednesday a check for \$265,000 to pay for a site for a new federal building. It will be built in Pine Bluff’s new civic center. Joseph McElroy of Dallas, attorney for the General Services Administration, which gave the check, said construction may start as early as June.”¹⁵

Although construction of the building was expected to begin as early as June 1965, it did not start until later since bids weren’t opened until July 1965. An article in the *Pine Bluff News* reported:

Bids will be opened July 8, 1965, for construction of the Post Office and Federal Office Building, which is expected to begin in late summer.

Invitations for bids will be mailed June 4 for the two million dollar building which [will] be located at Eighth and Main Streets.

The announcement came in two telegrams Wednesday, one from Senator William Fulbright to the NEWS office and the other to the Urban Renewal Agency office from U.S. Representative Oren Harris.

The site was cleared by the Urban Renewal Agency and was sold to the General Services Administration for \$265,000 on April 21, 1965.

The firm of Erhart, Eichenbaum, Rauch and Blass of Little Rock are the architects for this project.¹⁶

It was announced in August 1965, at least in the *Dallas Morning News*, that Warrior Construction, Inc., had been selected as the contractor for the building.¹⁷

¹⁴ Clow, Victoria. Determination of Eligibility for the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in the files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. 2015.

¹⁵ “Urban Renewal Grant.” *Northwest Arkansas Times*. 22 April 1965, p. 5.

¹⁶ “Bids Open For New Post Office.” *Pine Bluff News*. 27 May 1965, p. 1.

¹⁷ Clow, Victoria. Determination of Eligibility for the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in the files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. 2015.

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Groundbreaking for the new federal building occurred on October 24, 1965. A couple of days before the groundbreaking, the *Pine Bluff News* reported on the upcoming ceremony. The article stated:

The ground-breaking ceremony and dedication of the site for the Pine Bluff Federal Building Post Office and Civic Center complex will be held Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

The main speaker for the event will be the Senior Senator from Arkansas, John L. McClellan. Other dignitaries, which will include officials of the Urban Renewal Administration, the General Services Administration and the Post Office Department, will also attend.

A tent will be erected at Eighth Avenue and State Streets for the ceremonies, and a portion of the event will be covered by KATV television. The Pine Bluff High School A Cappella Choir will also sing.¹⁸

Construction of the building continued throughout 1966 and into 1967. During the construction of the building, there was little coverage of the work by the *Pine Bluff News*. However, a headline in the January 26, 1967, edition of the paper proclaimed that the “Federal Building Nearing Final Construction Stage.” It was noted in the article that

Pine Bluff’s beautiful new federal building is now entering the final stages of construction and Postmaster Joe L. McClellan said this week, “We hope to be moved into our new offices at least by the first of June.”

The huge structure, which is expected to house all federal offices in Pine Bluff in addition to the Post Office, is being built by Warrior Construction Company of Houston, Texas, but officials of the contracting firm could not say exactly when the construction would be completed.

Some federal offices had expected to move in by March, but moving dates are still quite tentative, pending completion and acceptance of the building by the General Services Administration.¹⁹

Even though construction of the Pine Bluff Federal Building was finished in 1967, the dedication of the building did not occur until May of 1968 when the entire Civic Center complex was dedicated. A newspaper account reported that “A \$2.2 million civic center and a \$2 million federal building were dedicated at Pine Bluff Sunday as about 1,200 persons attended despite threatening weather. Sen. John L. McClellan, D-Ark., who gave the dedicatory address, said the

¹⁸ “Civic Center Ground-Breaking To Begin Month of Activities.” *Pine Bluff News*. 21 October 1965, p. 1.

¹⁹ “Federal Building Nearing Final Construction Stage.” *Pine Bluff News*. 26 January 1967, pp. 1 and 8B.

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center ‘marks a significant milestone in the history of Pine Bluff and this section of Arkansas.’
McClellan also praised the use of federal money for such projects.”²⁰

The design of the Pine Bluff Federal Building reflected a trend in the GSA that gravitated towards modern design, which meant that federal buildings from the period resembled their private business counterparts more and more. As has been written:

Only the official seal and perhaps more marble in the lobbies and more hardware on the guards distinguished the big buildings of federal business from the big buildings of private business. ...

In the United States, conservative private architects rather than notable, cutting-edge architects were increasingly responsible for the design of Federal buildings. Generally, more concerned with efficiency and economy rather than with aesthetics, designers planned buildings that were utilitarian in nature. It was also during this era that the prominent, ceremonial entrances previously found on most public buildings all but disappeared. Cautious use of Modernism appeared with varying degrees of success. While public buildings followed the trends and technology of the larger architectural community, it was often with hesitation and delay. No longer were Federal buildings at the forefront of innovative design. However, technological advances in building design – most notably the use of metal skeletons sheathed with glass and other types of panels – were incorporated into Federal buildings.²¹

The U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in Pine Bluff was designed by the notable Arkansas architecture firm of Erhart, Eichenbaum, Rauch, and Blass. The firm was founded by Francis “Frank” Erhart and Howard Samuel Eichenbaum. Erhart was born in Hot Springs, Arkansas, in 1889. He attended the University of Pennsylvania and got an education in architecture. Howard Eichenbaum, on the other hand, was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1904 and graduated from Washington University in St. Louis, also with a degree in architecture.²²

Erhart and Eichenbaum both began their professional careers in 1920 working as draftsmen for the firm of Mann and Stern. When Mann and Stern dissolved their partnership in 1928, Erhart and Eichenbaum continued to work for Stern, and in 1930 they approached Stern about becoming associates. Since Stern was not interested, Erhart and Eichenbaum formed their own firm with Eichenbaum leaving Stern in January 1930 and Erhart leaving in February 1931.²³

²⁰ “1,200 Persons Attend Pine Bluff Dedication.” *Northwest Arkansas Times*. 13 May 1968, p. 8.

²¹ Robinson, Judith H., and Stephanie S. Foell. *Growth, Efficiency, and Modernism: GSA Buildings of the 1950s, 60s, and 70s*. Washington, DC: U.S. General Services Administration, 2003, p. 37.

²² Witsell, Charles and Gordon Wittenberg with Marylyn Jackson Parins. *Architects of Little Rock: 1833-1950*. Fayetteville, AR: The University of Arkansas Press, 2014, p. 95.

²³ Witsell, Charles and Gordon Wittenberg with Marylyn Jackson Parins. *Architects of Little Rock: 1833-1950*. Fayetteville, AR: The University of Arkansas Press, 2014, p. 97.

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Since Erhart and Eichenbaum started their firm during the Depression, there was no work. As a result, Eichenbaum worked for the Works Progress Administration as the state architect, while Erhart worked at keeping their office doors open. However, work began to pick up for the firm in the late 1930s when the firm was selected, in conjunction with Haralson and Mott to design the \$2 million Arkansas Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Booneville (NR-listed October 5, 2006).²⁴

Beginning in 1941 and lasting until 1946, Erhart and Eichenbaum were part of an association of architects and engineers that worked on military installations and wartime housing, due to the fact that almost all non-military work had stopped. However, after World War II, the firm continued to grow and added John A. Rauch as a partner in 1945. During the same period, Noland Blass, Jr., began working as a draftsman at the firm, and he was made a partner in 1956.²⁵

After World War II, the firm of Erhart, Eichenbaum, Rauch, and Blass became one of the largest architectural firms in the state. The firm designed many prominent landmarks in Little Rock, including Little Rock Baptist Hospital Main Campus, St. Vincent Infirmary, Barton Coliseum, buildings at the University of Arkansas Medical Center, and the Boy Scouts of America Headquarters. In addition to the firm's work in Little Rock, Erhart, Eichenbaum, Rauch, and Blass designed buildings throughout the state, including the Pine Bluff Federal Building.²⁶

Architect Edward F. Brueggeman, the other architect involved in the design of the Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse, headed the Little Rock architecture firm of Brueggeman, Swaim, and Allen. The firm, prior to becoming Swaim & Allen & Associates in 1950, began as Brueggeman and Swaim in 1933 and became Brueggeman, Swaim, and Allen, in 1936. Edward Frederick Brueggeman was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on July 8, 1905. He was educated in Asheville, North Carolina, and while in high school there he worked for Asheville-architect D. J. Dreyer. After high school Brueggeman took a course in architectural designing at Washington University in St. Louis before working for the St. Louis firm of LaBeaum and Klein. He stayed with LaBeaum and Klein until 1928 when he moved to Little Rock to join Thompson, Sanders, and Ginocchio, and he stayed there until he opened his own firm in the 1930s.²⁷

Brueggeman's partner, Guy Winfield Swaim, Jr., was born in Little Rock in 1906. After attending school in Little Rock, Swaim attended Castle Heights Military Academy at Lebanon, Tennessee, and then received his Bachelor's of Architecture degree from Alabama Polytechnic Institute. From 1926 until 1929, Swaim worked for John Parks Almand during his summer vacations. He also worked for Petter and McAninch in 1931 and Thompson, Sanders, and Ginocchio in 1932.²⁸

²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ Witsell, Charles and Gordon Wittenberg with Marylyn Jackson Parins. *Architects of Little Rock: 1833-1950*. Fayetteville, AR: The University of Arkansas Press, 2014, p. 106.

²⁸ Witsell, Charles and Gordon Wittenberg with Marylyn Jackson Parins. *Architects of Little Rock: 1833-1950*. Fayetteville, AR: The University of Arkansas Press, 2014, p. 106.

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas
County and State

Brueggeman and Swaim practiced together until William Samuel Allen joined the firm in 1936. Allen attended Little Rock College earning his bachelor's degree in 1927 and his master's degree in 1929. Even before graduation, in 1922, he began working for Sanders and Ginocchio and remained with the firm until 1936 when he joined Brueggeman and Swaim. The firm of Brueggeman, Swaim, and Allen became Swaim and Allen in 1953 when Brueggeman left to open his own practice, and James Clay Wellborn became an associate in the firm in 1954.²⁹

At the same time that Edward Durell Stone was designing the Pine Bluff Civic Center to the east of the federal building, his son, Edward Durell Stone, Jr., was in the process of designing the landscape for the complex. The Civic Center project was the only time that the father and son team collaborated on a design in Stone's native state. Work on the landscape design was underway to at least some degree by October 1962 with the preliminary plans for the landscaping finished by December 1964. The Civic Center complex was part of a much larger landscape plan that encompassed the area roughly bounded by 8th Avenue on the north, Main Street on the west, 12th Avenue on the south, and Missouri Street on the east. The landscape, which was to feature a variety of large shade trees, small flowering trees, narrowleaf evergreen trees, and groundcover, was to be planted around the Civic Center, commercial and office buildings in the area, the Federal Building, a proposed armory, a motel, and a municipal park and amphitheater. Although Stone, Jr., envisioned grand plans for the landscaping around the complex, little of the design was ultimately carried out.³⁰

Since its completion in 1967, this federal building has served as the as the main post office for Jefferson County and as a courthouse for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas. As a designated Sectional Center Facility for the U.S. Postal Service, the federal building is one of eight processing and distribution centers in the state. It is also one of the five divisions of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas, a federal court in the Eighth Circuit. The Pine Bluff Division comprises the counties of Arkansas, Chicot, Cleveland, Dallas, Desha, Drew, Grant, Jefferson, and Lincoln. At the time of the Federal Building's opening, the Chief Judge for the Eastern District was Judge Jesse Smith Henley. Judge Henley, who had been appointed to the district in 1959, remained in this position until he was appointed to the 8th Circuit of Appeals in 1975. During his tenure at the Eastern District, Judge Henley presided over a number of desegregation cases, but it is his decisions regarding the state of Arkansas' prisons and prisoners' rights that are considered landmark cases.

In 2008, the building was officially renamed in honor of the late U.S. District Judge George Howard Jr., a native of Pine Bluff who was the first African American to serve as a federal judge in Arkansas. Judge Howard was nominated to the federal bench by President Jimmy Carter on June 2, 1980 and initially served concurrently on the District Courts for both the Eastern District and Western District of Arkansas. From 1990 until his death in 2007, he was assigned exclusively to the Eastern District which includes the Pine Bluff Division.

²⁹ Witsell, Charles and Gordon Wittenberg with Marylyn Jackson Parins. *Architects of Little Rock: 1833-1950*. Fayetteville, AR: The University of Arkansas Press, 2014, pp. 108-109.

³⁰ *Preliminary Landscape Plans, Civic Center, Pine Bluff, Arkansas*. December 1964. In the files of EDSA, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. Courtesy of Edward Durell Stone, Jr.

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas
County and State

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROPERTY

The Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse represented a significant departure from many of the other commercial buildings that had been built in Pine Bluff. Many of the other commercial buildings in the area of the federal building were built in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and reflected popular Victorian and commercial styles of the period. (The only exception was the Pine Bluff Civic Center to the east.) The Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse, on the other hand, was based on the modern International style, with its characteristic flat roof, bands of windows, and smooth, unornamented wall surfaces.

The Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse was erected at a time when federal office space was in high demand nationally after World War II and new facilities were necessary to accommodate this need. The building also shows the influence of the Public Buildings Act of 1959 which consolidated federal building under the GSA and permitted private firms to undertake public work. As a result, the Pine Bluff Federal Building ended up being designed by the significant private Arkansas-based architectural firms of Erhart, Eichenbaum, Rauch & Blass and Brueggeman and Landauer & Associates. The design of the Pine Bluff Federal Building by locally-known architects reflected the GSA's practice at the time, which was that the "GSA tended to commission buildings designed by internationally and nationally recognized architects in larger cities, and buildings by locally known architects in smaller cities and towns."³¹

The design that was developed by Erhart, Eichenbaum, Rauch & Blass and Brueggeman and Landauer & Associates was consistent with modern office facilities of the time. Its façades, defined by brick and uniform windows, reflected a growing trend in which federal buildings began to more closely resemble their commercial counterparts. As Robinson and Foell write in their book, *Growth, Efficiency and Modernism*,

One of the most noticeable changes in Modern architecture was the diminishing distinction between public and private buildings. In the past, the symbolism of public buildings was important, and formal, hierarchical sequences of ceremonial spaces were common. However, the Modern era ushered in an emphasis on functionalism, and the economy of interior space reflected this new design mode. Grand lobbies were absent from Modern designs; instead, plazas served as exterior gateways to sites, while the use of transparent building materials served to visually unite exterior and interior spaces.³²

This trend, however, did not necessarily have a negative impact on federal building program. While it did create an inventory that did not necessarily exude the federal presence that older federal buildings did, some of the new 1960s era federal buildings were impressive examples of

³¹ Robinson, Judith H., and Stephanie S. Foell. *Growth, Efficiency, and Modernism: GSA Buildings of the 1950s, 60s, and 70s*. Washington, DC: U.S. General Services Administration, 2003, p. 6.

³² Robinson, Judith H., and Stephanie S. Foell. *Growth, Efficiency, and Modernism: GSA Buildings of the 1950s, 60s, and 70s*. Washington, DC: U.S. General Services Administration, 2003, p. 30.

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas
County and State

modern architecture in their own right. The Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse is one of those federal buildings whose architecture reflected solid application of new technologies and building systems. Today, the Pine Bluff Federal Building remains an excellent example of this era in the federal public building program. As a result, the Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C**.

The Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse is also significant for its associations with the role of urban renewal in Pine Bluff. By the mid-twentieth century, the area where the federal building was built had deteriorated and decayed into a swampy area that was occupied by substandard housing and struggling businesses. However, the construction of the Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse (along with the entire Civic Center complex) represented the pivotal role of urban renewal in modernizing and revitalizing Pine Bluff's downtown in the 1960s. After the area was redeveloped through Urban Renewal, the area became a showplace for Pine Bluff. Edward Durell Stone's striking Pine Bluff Civic Center, along with the Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse became a true civic center for the city. Having city hall, the library, fire station, police station, post office, and Federal courthouse all in one area meant that the area was once again a center of activity for the city as residents needed to come and complete civic business. Urban Renewal truly turned what was a struggling area of the city into a hub of business and activity, and a source of civic pride. As a result, the Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse is also being nominated to the National Register with **local significance** under **Criterion A**.

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

“1,200 Persons Attend Pine Bluff Dedication.” *Northwest Arkansas Times*. 13 May 1968, p. 8.

“Bids Open For New Post Office.” *Pine Bluff News*. 27 May 1965, p. 1.

Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Pulaski, Jefferson, Lonoke, Faulkner, Grant, Saline, Perry, Garland, and Hot Spring Counties, Arkansas. Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1889.

“Civic Center Ground-Breaking To Begin Month of Activities.” *Pine Bluff News*. 21 October 1965, p. 1.

Clow, Victoria. Determination of Eligibility for the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in the files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. 2015.

“Federal Building Nearing Final Construction Stage.” *Pine Bluff News*. 26 January 1967, pp. 1 and 8B.

Information on urban renewal found at:

http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Urban_renewal.aspx.

Leslie, James W. *Pine Bluff and Jefferson County: A Pictorial History*. Norfolk, VA: Donning Company, Publishers, 1981.

Preliminary Landscape Plans, Civic Center, Pine Bluff, Arkansas. December 1964. In the files of EDSA, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. Courtesy of Edward Durell Stone, Jr.

Robinson, Judith H., and Stephanie S. Foell. *Growth, Efficiency, and Modernism: GSA Buildings of the 1950s, 60s, and 70s*. Washington, DC: U.S. General Services Administration, 2003.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Pine Bluff, Arkansas: 1896, 1901, 1908, 1913, 1920, and 1950.

“Urban Renewal Grant.” *Northwest Arkansas Times*. 22 April 1965, p. 5.

Witsell, Charles and Gordon Wittenberg with Marylyn Jackson Parins. *Architects of Little Rock: 1833-1950*. Fayetteville, AR: The University of Arkansas Press, 2014.

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas
County and State

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: General Services Administration

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): JE0813

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Approximately 2.35 acres.

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 34.221127 | Longitude: -92.002592 |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas
County and State

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 15 | Easting: 591870 | Northing: 3787121 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

Block 2 of the Clark & McCracken Addition to the City of Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary encompasses all of the land historically associated with the property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator
organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
street & number: 1100 North Street
city or town: Little Rock state: AR zip code: 72201
e-mail: ralph@arkansasheritage.org
telephone: (501) 324-9787
date: June 8, 2016

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas
County and State

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: U.S. Post Office and Courthouse

City or Vicinity: Pine Bluff

County: Jefferson County

State: Arkansas

Photographer: Ralph S. Wilcox and Mason Toms

Date Photographed: November 4, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 16. View of the north façade of the building, looking south.

2 of 16. View of the west façade of the building, looking southeast.

3 of 16. View of the west façade of the building, looking northeast.

4 of 16. View of the south façade of the building, looking north.

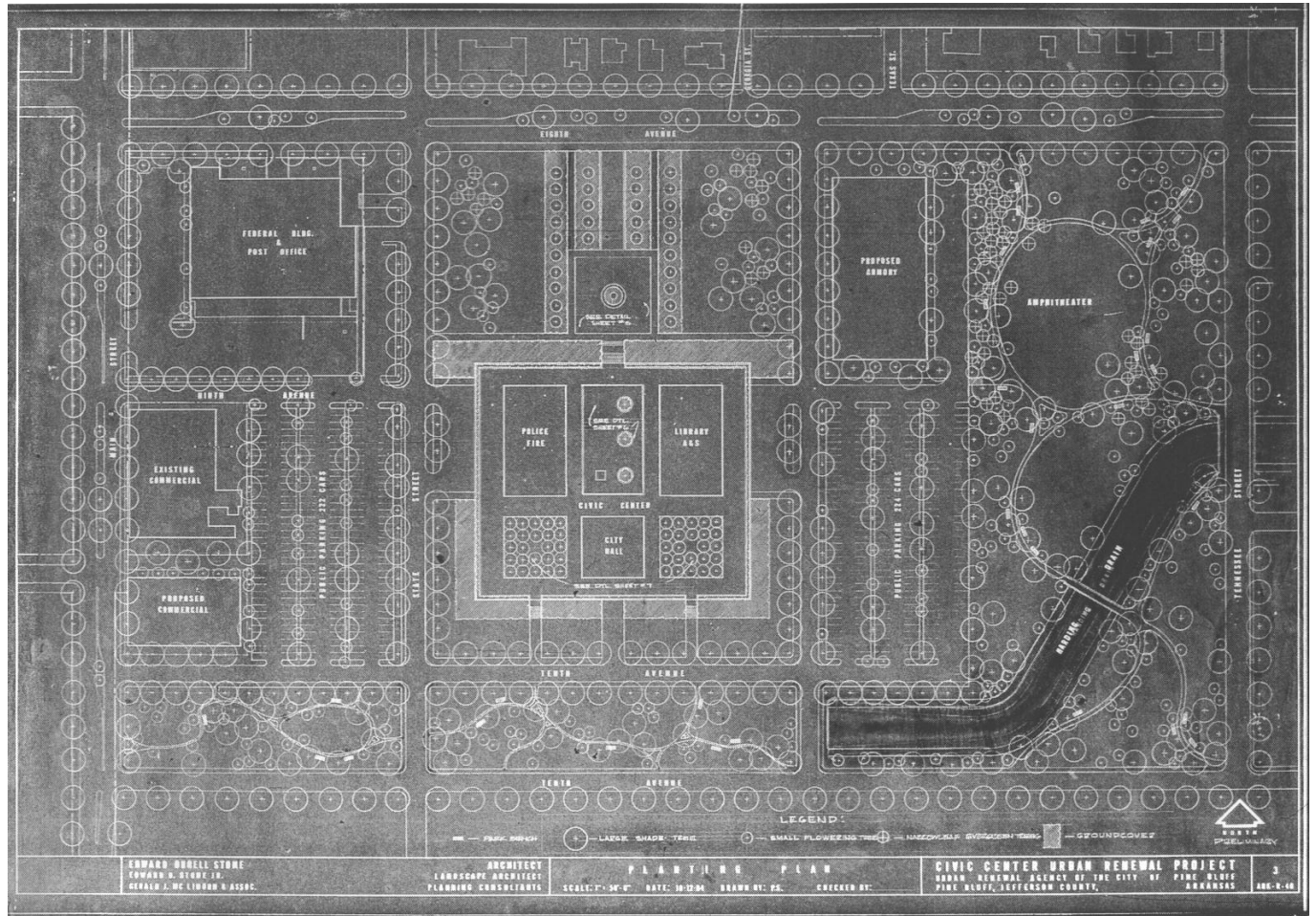
U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas
County and State

- 5 of 16. View of the loading dock area on the south façade of the building, looking northwest.
- 6 of 16. View of the east façade of the building, looking west.
- 7 of 16. View of the north and east façades of the building, looking southwest.
- 8 of 16. Window detail on the east façade of the building, looking west.
- 9 of 16. View of the cornerstone of the building, looking south.
- 10 of 16. View of the plaque in the lobby, looking south.
- 11 of 16. View of the document display case in the lobby, looking south.
- 12 of 16. Detail view of the lobby entrance railing, looking northeast.
- 13 of 16. View of the main lobby of the building, looking west.
- 14 of 16. View of the main lobby of the building, looking east.
- 15 of 16. Historic photo of the construction of the building on May 3, 1966, looking northeast.
- 16 of 16. Historic photo of the construction of the building on May 3, 1966, looking northwest.

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas
County and State



October 12, 1964, Planting Plan for the Pine Bluff Civic Center. The Pine Bluff U.S. Post Office and Courthouse is at the upper left hand corner.

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



|-----358 feet-----|

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Pine Bluff, Jefferson County, Arkansas

15 591870E 3787121N



North



|-----1180 feet-----|

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Pine Bluff, Jefferson County, Arkansas

15 591870E 3787121N



North



GEORGE HOW

SAHARA







UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
BULK BUSINESS MAIL
ACCEPTANCE UNIT
RING BELL FOR SERVICE →

NO
SMOKING

REUSE THIS BOX AT LEAST 5 TIMES
DO NOT CUT

↑





JR.
HOUSE

WILSON
BROOKS



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
LYNDON B JOHNSON
PRESIDENT

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
LAWSON B KNOTT JR
ADMINISTRATOR

1966

FEDERAL BUILDING

UNITED STATES COURT HOUSE

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

LYNDON B JOHNSON

PRESIDENT

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

LAWSON B KNOTT JR

ADMINISTRATOR

WILLIAM A SCHMIDT

COMMISSIONER

PUBLIC BUILDINGS SERVICE

JOHN M MCGEE

REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS

ERHART EICHENBAUM RAUCH AND BLASS AND

BRUEGGEMAN AND LANDAUER AND ASSOCIATES

BUILDERS

WARRIOR CONSTRUCTORS INC

COMPLETED

1967



Charters of Freedom

1st CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

The text of the Declaration of Independence, including the preamble and the signatures of the delegates.

The Declaration of Independence
1776

The Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Continental Congress on September 9, 1776, and signed on September 17, 1776. It is the first document to declare the independence of the United States from Great Britain.

Congress of the United States

Open and held at the City of New York on
Wednesday the ninth of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine

The text of the Bill of Rights, including the preamble and the first ten amendments.

The Bill of Rights
1791

The Bill of Rights was adopted by the first Congress on September 17, 1789, and ratified by the states on December 15, 1791. It is the first ten amendments to the United States Constitution.

The text of the Constitution of the United States, including the preamble and the first three articles.

The Constitution of the United States
1787

The Constitution of the United States was drafted by the Framers in 1787 and signed on September 17, 1787. It is the supreme law of the United States.





NO MAIL
SPRING 2014

NO MAIL
COMPLETED

NO MAIL
COMPLETED
PLATS



BOOK RENTAL FEES	
6 MONTHS - 1 YEAR	
No. 1 Box	200
No. 2 Box	250
No. 3 Box	300
No. 4 Box	350
No. 5 Box	400
No. 6 Box	450

OTHER SERVICES
DISCOUNT FOR KEYS \$1.

READ, RESPOND,
RECYCLE
YOUR MAIL





Construction site Facing Northeast
DESCRIPTION OF PHOTOGRAPH

Postoffice & Federal Office Bldg.
BUILDING

Pine Bluff, Ark.
CITY, STATE

Progress view, May 3, 1966
TYPE & DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH

Warrior Constructors, Inc.
CONTRACTOR

Mr. Charles L. Harper
CONSTR. ENGINEER



Construction site Facing Northwest
DESCRIPTION OF PHOTOGRAPH

Postoffice & Federal Office Bldg.
BUILDING

Pine Bluff, Ark.
CITY, STATE

Progress view, May 3, 1966
TYPE & DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH

Warrior Constructors, Inc.
CONTRACTOR

Mr. Charles L. Harper
CONSTR. ENGINEER

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: 12/23/2016 Date of Pending List: Date of 16th Day: Date of 45th Day: 2/7/2017 Date of Weekly List: 2/16/2017

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 2/7/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 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.



THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS
HERITAGE

Asa Hutchinson
Governor

Stacy Hurst
Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural
Heritage Commission

Arkansas State Archives

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum

June 8, 2016

Elizabeth Hannold
Preservation Specialist
Center for Historic Buildings
GSA, Office of the Chief Architect
Suite 5400
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

RE: U.S. Post Office and Courthouse – Pine Bluff, Jefferson County,
Arkansas

Dear Elizabeth:

I am enclosing the National Register nomination for the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in Pine Bluff, Jefferson County, Arkansas, for the GSA's signature. This nomination was presented to our State Review Board at their meeting on December 7, 2016, where it was approved unanimously by the Board.

Thank you for signing this nomination and forwarding it to Jim Gabbert, our Reviewer at the National Park Service. If you have any questions, feel free to give me a call at (501) 324-9787 or E-mail me at ralph.wilcox@arkansas.gov.

Sincerely,

Ralph S. Wilcox
National Register and Survey Coordinator
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

RSW:rsw

Enclosure



ARKANSAS HISTORIC
PRESERVATION PROGRAM



National Historic
Preservation Act 1966-2016



1100 North Street
Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 324-9880
fax: (501) 324-9184
tdd: 711

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info@arkansaspreservation.org

website:

www.arkansaspreservation.com

An Equal Opportunity Employer



THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS
HERITAGE

Asa Hutchinson
Governor

Stacy Hurst
Director

September 30, 2016

Ms. Lori Walker
City of Pine Bluff
200 East Eighth Avenue
Pine Bluff, AR 71601

Re: Federal Building, U.S. Post Office and Courthouse – Pine Bluff, Jefferson County

Dear Ms. Walker:

We are pleased to inform you that the above referenced property will be considered by the State Review Board of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage, for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register of Historic Places is the federal government's official list of historic properties worthy of the preservation. Listing in the National Register of Historic Places provides recognition and assists in preserving our nation's heritage.

Listing of this property provides recognition of the community's historic importance and assures protective review of the federal projects that might adversely affect the character of the historic property.

Listing in the National Register does not mean that limitations will be placed on the property by the federal government. Public visitation rights are not required of property owners. The federal government will not attach covenants to the property or seek to acquire it.

We have enclosed a copy of the National Register nomination for your review. If you have any comments on the proposed nomination, please submit a letter with your comments, concerns, or concurrence to the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program at least 24 hours prior to the date of the State Review Board meeting.

You are invited to attend the State Review Board meeting at which the nomination will be considered. The board will begin meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at the Old State House Museum at 300 West Markham Street, in Little Rock.

If you have any questions regarding the State Review Board meeting feel free to call Ralph Wilcox, Callie Williams or Travis Ratermann at (501) 324-9880.

Sincerely,

Frances McSwain
Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural
Heritage Commission

Arkansas State Archives

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



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website:

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THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS
HERITAGE

December 7, 2016

Asa Hutchinson
Governor

Stacy Hurst
Director

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief
National Register and National Historic Landmark Programs
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl.
Washington D.C. 20005

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural
Heritage Commission

Arkansas State Archives

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum

RE: Federal Building, U.S. Post Office and Courthouse – Pine
Bluff, Jefferson County, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Loether:

We are enclosing for your review the above-referenced nomination. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Federal Building, U.S. Post Office and Courthouse to the National Register of Historic Places. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

If you need further information, please call Ralph S. Wilcox of my staff at (501) 324-9787. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Stacy Hurst
State Historic Preservation Officer

SH:rsw

Enclosure



National Historic
Preservation Act 1966-2016



323 Center Street, Suite 1500
Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 324-9880
fax: (501) 324-9184
tdd: 711

e-mail:

info@arkansaspreservation.org

website:

www.arkansaspreservation.com



December 21, 2016

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



Dear Mr. Loether: *Paul*

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is pleased to nominate the Federal Building, U.S. Post Office and Courthouse (current name: George Howard, Jr., Federal Building and United States Courthouse) located at 100 E. 8th Street, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, 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 Federal Office Building, U.S. Post Office and Courthouse, located in Pine Bluff, AR, to the National Register of Historic Places; and
- Disks 2 and 3 – The enclosed disks contain the .tif image files for the above referenced nomination.

The nomination was prepared by staff at the Department of Arkansas Heritage in partnership with GSA.

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 Elizabeth Hannold at (202) 501-2863 or elizabeth.hannold@gsa.gov.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures

cc: Steve Kline, Regional Historic Preservation Officer
Ralph Wilcox, National Register and Survey Coordinator