

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 5 1986

DATE ENTERED OCT 19 1987

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

AND/OR COMMON

WOBURN CENTER STATION POST OFFICE

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

2 ABBOTT STREET

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

WOBURN

___ VICINITY OF

7TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

MASSACHUSETTS 01830

CODE
1510

COUNTY

MIDDLESEX

CODE

017

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

__ DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
__ STRUCTURE
__ SITE
__ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC
__ PRIVATE
__ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
__ IN PROCESS
N/A BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED
__ UNOCCUPIED
__ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES: RESTRICTED
__ YES: UNRESTRICTED
__ NO

PRESENT USE

__ AGRICULTURE
__ COMMERCIAL
__ EDUCATIONAL
__ ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
__ INDUSTRIAL
__ MILITARY
__ MUSEUM
__ PARK
__ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__ RELIGIOUS
__ SCIENTIFIC
__ TRANSPORTATION
__ OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: *(If applicable)*

NEW ENGLAND FIELD REAL ESTATE AND BUILDINGS OFFICE

STREET & NUMBER

1050 WALTHAM STREET

CITY, TOWN

LEXINGTON,

___ VICINITY OF

MASSACHUSETTS 02173

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS

STREET & NUMBER

210 CAMBRIDGE STREET

CITY, TOWN

CAMBRIDGE,

MASSACHUSETTS 02173

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

NONE

DATE

__ FEDERAL __ STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

ADDITION 1969

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Constructed in 1911, the Woburn Post Office was sited on the northern perimeter of Woburn Common and faced the Old City Hall, razed in 1931 for the construction of the new city government offices. The Post Office was also placed adjacent to the Lowell Branch of the Boston and Maine Railroad, since removed to satisfy the needs of city parking. The public Library, a Richardsonian Romanesque edifice listed in the National Register in 1976, several colonial churches and wood framed homesteads also ringed the loosely formed Common at that time. Unfortunately, the open area immediately in front of the Post Office was privately owned and built upon in the 1950's, blocking the view of, and separating the Post Office from the frontage on the Common. Several commercial banks and a new courthouse have since been built around the Common.

The Woburn Post Office is of formal Neo-Classic design, with a nine bay front entrance facade featuring a projected, center entrance bay. The entrance is flanked by Doric columns supporting a stern, flat entablature carrying a minute pediment. All cut facade details are very straightforward and simple, but unified into a singular bold statement. The finely striated sandstone veneer of all facades rests on a shaped watertable of the same material, supported by a granite veneered foundation. Each delineated transomed window bay is interrupted by a fine frieze which runs continually under the cut blind panels located over each window. All facades are capped with a detailed, denticulated cornice enhanced with an ornate and fully ballustrated cap parapet that provides an aesthetic and visual barrier against the low sloped, standing seam roof. The sandstone chimney is centered on the flat termination roof in the form of a functional cupola.

The bayed facade design has been repeated on all elevations, with five identical bays on each side facade and nine bays at the rear, mirroring the front facade treatment and rhythm. Subsequent modifications to the structure in 1939 added a mail platform and extended the workroom at the rear of the building. This extension was designed and constructed with veneers and fenestration materials similar or identical to that of the original design. The addition used the frieze of the original building as its cornice and is capped by a low profile parapet that does not interrupt or detract from the original cornice and parapet.

The site slopes to the right and rear of the Post Office, permitting basement half-windows on those facades and expressing the strength of its granite base. Granite steps and terrace, set between acanthus leafed, globed light standards set on large granite bases, lead through the columned entrance to a small muntined glass and wood vestibule and into the full width, somewhat narrow, lobby.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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11/5/86

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1

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Minor modifications, completed in 1939, shortened the full width of the lobby with the addition of a small office at the left end. The original wood trim has been painted and new, suspended strip lighting runs the length of the lobby.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	Dedication 1912 Addition 1939	BUILDER/ARCHITECT James Knox Taylor, Sup. Arch't. Louis A. Simon/W.G. Noll
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Dedicated in 1912, the Woburn Post Office possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship as well as significant association with the development of the Woburn Commons section of the city. Additionally, it exemplifies the high standard set by Treasury Architect Taylor and his return of governmental buildings to the classical interpretation and design. It is also significant locally for the symbolic power and dignity of the Federal Presence. Therefore the Woburn Post Office meets the National Register criteria A and C.

The City of Woburn was founded in 1642, becoming the twenty-ninth town of the combined Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay Colonies, and opted for City Government in 1889. Situated one day's ride on the stage route between Boston and Amherst, New Hampshire, this locale gained importance as an overnight stage stop and, with the passing of the Congressional Act of March 3, 1797 creating a mail stage route on that line, the first Postmaster, Icabod Parker, was commissioned on October 3, 1797. Mr. Parker also operated Fowles Tavern, the stage stop, and conducted post office business in a corner of the main tavern room.

In 1803, with the opening of the Middlesex Canal, this agricultural community on the Aberjona River grew to become a primary leather and tanning center in Massachusetts. By the time the Canal closed in 1853, due in large part to the advent of the railroads, the Post Office had moved some six times, at the discretion of the six appointed Postmasters during those fifty years, and was to move three more times prior to the construction of the present Post Office in 1911.

Spurred by the efforts of Luther Harris, a prominent Woburn businessman who foresaw the need for the stability of the "Federal Presence" in the community, and coupled with the prompting of Mrs. H. C. Blake's formal petition, the Government selected a site just north of Woburn Common in 1907, and groundbreaking for the present building took place in September 1910.

Designed by James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect for the Treasury Department, the Woburn Post Office reflects Taylor's favored Neo-Classical design style of mass and symmetry. The center entrance is

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Federal Presence, Craig, Lois A.	MIT Press	1980
Field Guide to American Architecture, Rifkind, Carole,	Bonanza	1980
History of Post Office Construction, 1900-1940,	July	1982
Mishawum, A Story of Woburn, Deehan, P.	unpublished	1952
Community Survey of Woburn, Abbott, Lillian	unpublished	1920

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.666 A

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>19</u>	<u>329</u>	<u>9310</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>05</u>	<u>100</u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING			
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at a point of Abbott Street,

thence running: Northeast 131' along Abbott Street
 Northwest 135' along Federal Street
 Southwest 155'
 Southeast 33'
 Southwest 17'
 Southeast 96' to the point of origin

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

E. Brett Heenan, Preservation Coordinator March 25, 1986

ORGANIZATION

DATE

THE BOSTON PARTNERSHIP, INC.

MARCH 17, 1986

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

48 INMAN STREET

(617) 492-8866

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

CAMBRIDGE,

MASSACHUSETTS 02139

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

Valerie A. Talmage 5/1/86
 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

John S. Lawrence

TITLE Realty Acquisition Specialist, Principal

DATE

10/31/86

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Patrick Andrews

DATE

10/19/87

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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

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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 1

...raised some four feet above sidewalk grade to compensate for the slope from the Common to the building and to establish a solid visual base.

Constructed prior to the Classification System of 1915, the Post Office was the first new construction in the Common area and was an attempt, by the civic leaders, to create a nucleus for further development and growth of the central commercial area at the Common. This building, in the open space of the 1912 Common, demonstrated tangible evidence of the "Federal Presence", symbolizing the strength and ideals of their United States Government. Interpreted by Architect Taylor, this bold statement reflects the gracious style of that era's "American Classic".

During groundbreaking ceremonies on September 12, 1910, A. W. Whitcher, the principal speaker, declared:

"There have been two most important events in Woburn. The first most important event was the construction of the Middlesex Canal, connecting Woburn with New Hampshire and Boston; and this construction of our Federal Post Office, a Gift from the National Government."

Upon opening for business on January 12, 1912, the local newspaper, The Woburn Times, stated that:

"Finally, after one hundred and fourteen years of wandering, our post office has a real home, and a permanent address."

As a well preserved example of early twentieth century post office design, this ediface, with its perhaps unusual sandstone veneer, plays its stern solid mass against the light, open ornamented parapet, a contrast that the Architect brilliantly created and fused in harmony.



UNITED STATES POST OFFICE
2 ABBOTT STREET
WOBURN, MA 01830

LEXINGTON QUADRANGLE
UTM: 19-3/29/930-47/05/100

115/16



U.S. POST OFFICE

U.S. POST SERVICE
POSTAL SERVICE
HUBBARD MA 01801

U. S. POST OFFICE
2 ABBOTT STREET
WOBURN, MA 01830
PHOTO DATE: JUNE 1985

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

NEGATIVES @ USPS-FREBO
LEXINGTON, MA 02173



U. S. POST OFFICE
2 ABBOTT STREET
WOBURN, MA 01830
PHOTO DATE: JUNE 1985

VIEW FROM SOUTHEAST
FRONT ELEVATION *ms/66*

NEGATIVES @ USPS-FREBO
LEXINGTON, MA 02173



U. S. POST OFFICE
2 ABBOTT STREET
WOBURN, MA 01830
PHOTO DATE: JUNE 1985

VIEW FROM SOUTHWEST
LEFT SIDE ELEV. *WJTA*

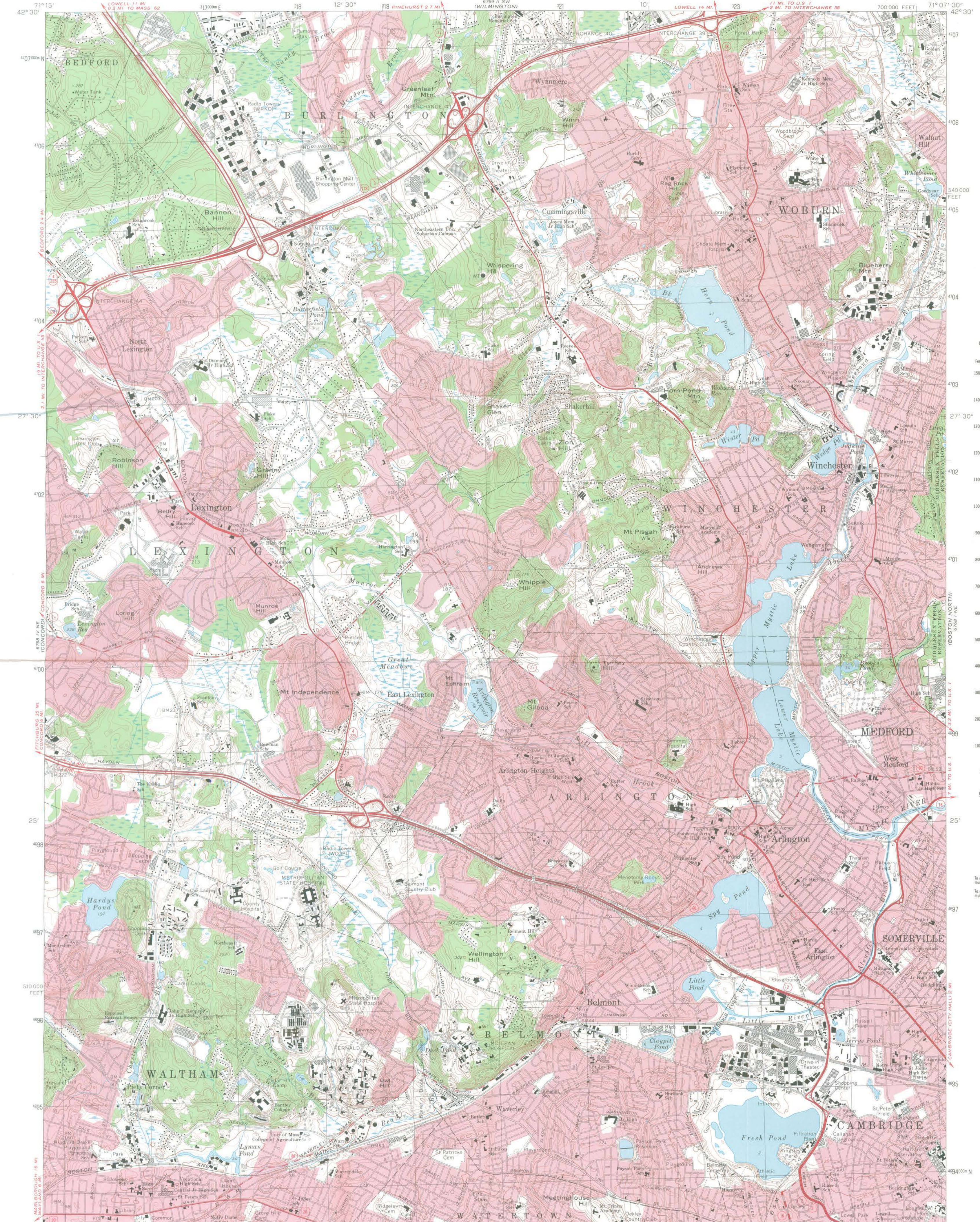
NEGATIVES @ USPS-FREBO
LEXINGTON, MA 02173



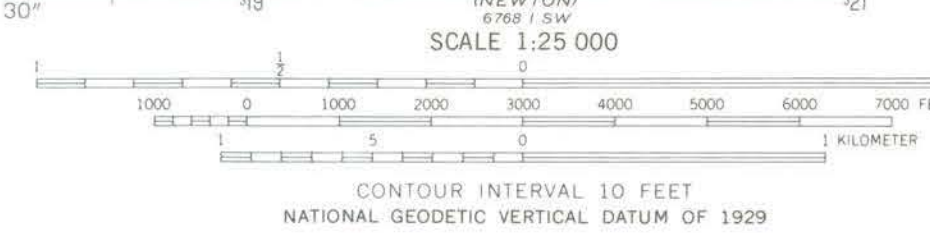
U. S. POST OFFICE
2 ABBOTT STREET
WOBURN, MA 01830
PHOTO DATE: JUNE 1985

VIEW FROM NORTHEAST
RIGHT SIDE ELEV. *1657A*

NEGATIVES @ USPS-FREBO
LEXINGTON, MA 02173



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts
Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1939. Topography by planetable surveys 1943
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1971
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,
zone 19
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark
buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface ————
Secondary highway, hard surface ————
Light duty road, hard or improved surface ————
Unimproved road - - - - -
Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

LEXINGTON, MASS.
N4222.5—W7107.5/7.5

1971
AMS 6768 I NW—SERIES V814

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2014

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY US Post Office--Woburn Center Station
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 11/19/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/05/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 86003436

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

RECOM./CRITERIA

REVIEWER

DISCIPLINE

TELEPHONE

DATE

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

September 10, 2013

J. Paul Loether
National Park Service 2280, 8th Floor
National Register of Historic Places
1201 I (eye) Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Re: Address changes for properties listed on the NRHP

As we digitize our inventory of historic resources, we are discovering discrepancies in property addresses due to renumbering, changing the address to a side street that abuts the parcel, or assigning a precise address where none had existed. In some cases, property owners have notified us of an incorrect address. We are, therefore, writing to request technical corrections in the National Register records for the following:

Chelsea (Suffolk County)

- Chelsea Garden Cemetery (NRIND 2/9/2001)—new address is 70 Central Avenue (formerly Shawmut Street) 01000089

Cheshire (Berkshire County)

- Hall's Tavern (NRIND 3/10/1983)—new address is 31 North Street (formerly North Street) 83000568

Cohasset (Norfolk County)

- Pratt Historic Building (NRIND 9/7/2006)—new address is 106-110 South Main Street (formerly 106 South Main Street) 06000816

Concord (Middlesex County)

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo House (NRIND/NHL 10/15/1966; NRDIS 9/13/1977)—new address is 18 Cambridge Turnpike (formerly 28 Cambridge Turnpike near intersection of Lexington Road) 66000365 NHL
- Sleepy Hollow Cemetery (NRIND 8/19/1998)—new address is 34A Bedford Street (formerly 24 Court Lane) 98000991

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
(617) 727-8470 • Fax: (617) 727-5128
www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc

Dennis (Barnstable County)

- West Schoolhouse (NRIND 4/24/1975)—new address is 61 Whig Street (formerly NobsCUSset Road) 75000262
- Dennis, Josiah Manse (NRIND 2/15/1974)— new address is 61 Whig Street (formerly NobsCUSset Road and Whig Street) West Schoolhouse and Josaih Dennis Manse, which stand adjacent to each other, have the same address. 74000360

Easton (Bristol County)

- North Easton Railroad Station/Old Colony Railroad Station (NRIND 4/11/72; NRDIS 11/3/1972 and 12/23/1987; NHL 12/23/1987)—new address is 80 Mechanic Street (formerly Oliver Street or off Oliver St along railroad right of way) 72000125

Holden (Worcester County)

- Willard-Fisk Farm (NRIND 2/23/1996)— new address is 121 Whitney Street (formerly 123 Whitney Street) 96000163

Wilmington (Middlesex County)

- West Schoolhouse (NRIND 2/23/1990)— new address is 141 Shawsheen Avenue (formerly Shawsheen Avenue at Aldrich Road) 90000144

Winthrop (Suffolk County)

- Newton, Edward B. School (NRIND 8/21/1997)— new address is 131 Pauline Street (formerly 45 Pauline Street) 97000878
- Winthrop, Deane House (NRIND/TRA, First Period Buildings of Eastern MA, 3/9/1990)—new address is 34 Shirley Street (formerly 40 Shirley Street) 90000162

Woburn (Middlesex County)

- U. S. Post Office-Woburn Center Station (NRIND 10/19/1987)—new address is 1 Abbott Street (formerly 2 Abbott Street) 86003436

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

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N/A BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE** YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO**PRESENT USE** AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**4 AGENCY**

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<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Dedication 1912
Addition 1939

BUILDER/ARCHITECT James Knox Taylor, Sup. Arch't.
Louis A. Simon/W.G. Noll

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Dedicated in 1912, the Woburn Post Office possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship as well as significant association with the development of the Woburn Commons section of the city. Additionally, it exemplifies the high standard set by Treasury Architect Taylor and his return of governmental buildings to the classical interpretation and design. It is also significant locally for the symbolic power and dignity of the Federal Presence. Therefore the Woburn Post Office meets the National Register criteria A and C.

The City of Woburn was founded in 1642, becoming the twenty-ninth town of the combined Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay Colonies, and opted for City Government in 1889. Situated one day's ride on the stage route between Boston and Amherst, New Hampshire, this locale gained importance as an overnight stage stop and, with the passing of the Congressional Act of March 3, 1797 creating a mail stage route on that line, the first Postmaster, Icabod Parker, was commissioned on October 3, 1797. Mr. Parker also operated Fowles Tavern, the stage stop, and conducted post office business in a corner of the main tavern room.

In 1803, with the opening of the Middlesex Canal, this agricultural community on the Aberjona River grew to become a primary leather and tanning center in Massachusetts. By the time the Canal closed in 1853, due in large part to the advent of the railroads, the Post Office had moved some six times, at the discretion of the six appointed Postmasters during those fifty years, and was to move three more times prior to the construction of the present Post Office in 1911.

Spurred by the efforts of Luther Harris, a prominent Woburn businessman who foresaw the need for the stability of the "Federal Presence" in the community, and coupled with the prompting of Mrs. H. C. Blake's formal petition, the Government selected a site just north of Woburn Common in 1907, and groundbreaking for the present building took place in September 1910.

Designed by James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect for the Treasury Department, the Woburn Post Office reflects Taylor's favored Neo-Classical design style of mass and symmetry. The center entrance is

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 11/5/86

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 1

...raised some four feet above sidewalk grade to compensate for the slope from the Common to the building and to establish a solid visual base.

Constructed prior to the Classification System of 1915, the Post Office was the first new construction in the Common area and was an attempt, by the civic leaders, to create a nucleus for further development and growth of the central commercial area at the Common. This building, in the open space of the 1912 Common, demonstrated tangible evidence of the "Federal Presence", symbolizing the strength and ideals of their United States Government. Interpreted by Architect Taylor, this bold statement reflects the gracious style of that era's "American Classic".

During groundbreaking ceremonies on September 12, 1910, A. W. Whitcher, the principal speaker, declared:

"There have been two most important events in Woburn. The first most important event was the construction of the Middlesex Canal, connecting Woburn with New Hampshire and Boston; and this construction of our Federal Post Office, a Gift from the National Government."

Upon opening for business on January 12, 1912, the local newspaper, The Woburn Times, stated that:

"Finally, after one hundred and fourteen years of wandering, our post office has a real home, and a permanent address."

As a well preserved example of early twentieth century post office design, this edifice, with its perhaps unusual sandstone veneer, plays its stern solid mass against the light, open ornamented parapet, a contrast that the Architect brilliantly created and fused in harmony.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Federal Presence, Craig, Lois A.	MIT Press	1980
Field Guide to American Architecture, Rifkind, Carole,	Bonanza	1980
History of Post Office Construction, 1900-1940,	July	1982
Mishawum, A Story of Woburn, Deehan, P.	unpublished	1952
Community Survey of Woburn, Abbott, Lillian	unpublished	1920

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.666 A

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>19</u>	<u>3299310</u>	<u>47051100</u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at a point of Abbott Street,

thence running: Northeast 131' along Abbott Street
 Northwest 135' along Federal Street
 Southwest 155'
 Southeast 33'
 Southwest 17'
 Southeast 96' to the point of origin

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

E. Brett Heenan, Preservation Coordinator

March 25, 1986

ORGANIZATION

THE BOSTON PARTNERSHIP, INC.

DATE

MARCH 17, 1986

STREET & NUMBER

48 INMAN STREET

TELEPHONE

(617) 492-8866

CITY OR TOWN

CAMBRIDGE,

STATE

MASSACHUSETTS 02139

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

Valerie A. Talmage 5/1/86
 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is Local National State Local .

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

John P. Lawrence

TITLE Realty Acquisition Specialist, Principal

DATE

10/31/86

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Linda:
 pls type my
 title*

86003436

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

US Post Office--Woburn Center Station
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Substantive Review

Working No. NOV 5 1986

Fed. Reg. Date: _____

Date Due: 12/4/86 - 12/20/86

Action: ACCEPT

RETURN 12-18-86

REJECT

Federal Agency: USPS

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Please note technical correction necessary to enable listing. Property is clearly eligible for architectural significance.

Recom./Criteria Return

Reviewer JAMES

Discipline Architectural History

Date 12/10/86

_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
		<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

13. Other

- Maps *Please provide full original USGS map.*
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Beth Savage (202) 343-9550

Signed Patrick Andrus Date 12/18/86 Phone: _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

US Post Office--Woburn Center Station
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Substantive Review

Working No. 11-5-86
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/7/89
Date Due: 10-19-87
Action: ACCEPT 10-19-87
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: USPS

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Locally important Neo-Classical institutional design reflective of major local impact of Federal post office construction program.

Recom./Criteria Accept Asc
Reviewer Steve
Discipline Architectural History
Date 10/18/87
see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
----------	---------------------------------	----------------------	-------------

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
Facilities Service Office
P.O. Box 324
Lexington, MA 02173-0324

July 29, 1986

The Honorable John Rabbitt
Mayor, City of Woburn
City Hall
10 Common Street
Woburn, MA 01801

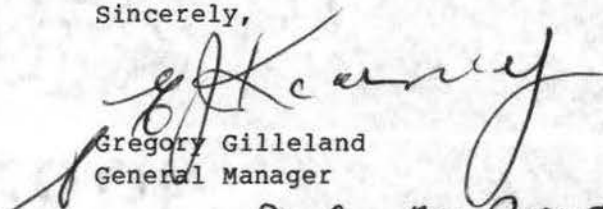
Dear Mayor Rabbitt:


The U.S. Postal Service in conjunction with the Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Officer in Boston has evaluated the Main Post Office in Woburn and has determined it is significant from an historical viewpoint.

In view of the above evaluation, the U.S. Postal Service intends to nominate this building to the National Register of Historic Places. We would, prior to our taking formal action, appreciate receiving your concurrence.

If you concur with our proposed action, kindly return a signed copy of this letter in the enclosed envelope.

Sincerely,


Gregory Gilleland
General Manager

Concur: 

Enclosure

RECEIVED
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION
LEXINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

AUG 4 10 17 AM '86

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
Facilities Department
475 L'Enfant Plaza. SW
Washington. DC 20260-6400

October 31, 1986

Ms. Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240-1002

Dear Ms. Shull:

The Postal Service hereby submits a nomination for the post office located at 2 Abbott Street, Middlesex County, Woburn, Massachusetts.

If you have any questions concerning this nomination, please contact me at (202) 268-3107.

Sincerely,

John S. Sorenson
Realty Acquisition Specialist, Principal
Realty Acquisition Division
Office of Real Estate

Attachment

NOV 5 1986



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
FACILITIES SERVICE CENTER
REAL ESTATE DIVISION
WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT 06006-0330

September 1, 1987

Ms. Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of Interior
Washington, DC 20240-1002

Dear Ms. Shull:

The Postal Service is pleased to submit nominations for the following Post Office facilities:

1. 119 Elm St., Worcester County, Millbury, MA
2. 217 Commerical St., Branstable County, Provincetown, MA
3. 37 Taunton Green, Bristol County, Taunton, MA
4. 2 Abbott St., Middlesex County, Woburn, MA
5. 58 Church St., Worcester County, Whitinsville, MA
6. 321 Main St., Middlesex County, Wakefield, MA
7. 48 Waterford Rd., Middlesex County, Winchester, MA
8. 75 Park St., Bristol County, Attleboro, MA
9. 90 Center St., Plymouth County, Middleborough, MA

Some of these nominations were submitted previously and returned in order that full quadrangle maps could be included. This has been done in all cases.

Should there be any questions concerning these nominations, please do not hesitate to call me on 203-285-7181.

Sincerely,

William S. Noncrief
Real Estate Specialist, Principal

Enclosures

cc: John Sorenson
Realty Acquisition Specialist, Principal
Washington, DC

SEP 4 1987

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____
Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Please indicate property on full USGS maps

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____