Form No. 10-306 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

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

NAME				
HISTORIC	United States I	Post Office		
AND/OR COMMON	Sanford Main Post Office			
LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER				
STREET & NOWIDER	28 School Stree	et at Mousam Street N	ANOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTRI	СТ
07475	Sanford		First Congress	ional Distri CODE
state Maine	04073	CODE 7250	county York	031
CLASSIFIC	CATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	X STATUS	PRESI	INTUSE
DISTRICT	X_public		AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
XBUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	BOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDEN
SITE OBJECT	PUBLIC ACQUISI		ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATIO
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## 7 DESCRIPTION

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE The Sanford, Maine Post Office occupies a corner lot on a quiet street which leads to the central business district two blocks away. The main road through Sanford, State Route 109, runs approximately parallel to School Street until they converge at the town center. A couple of blocks to the rear of the building, along Mousam Street are the old Industrial mill buildings. Despite the proximity to both the Commercial Center and Industrial area, the Post Office building is situated in a residential area of smaller individual structures including a church, senior citizen center, as well as the only other two buildings of interest- the Public Library (on Route 109), and a large Victorian mansion directly across the Street which is listed on the National Register. A municipal parking area occupies the block across Mousam Street from the side entrance.

The Post Office is a one story building with a basement, rectangular in plan, with a central entrance on School Street and a side entrance on Mousam Street, both leading directly to the public lobby which runs along the front of the building, with the Postmaster's office located at the right end of the lobby. Behind the lobby screen is the workroom and mailing platform at the rear of the building. The basement consists of utility, service and storage rooms.

A one story Federal office building addition has been added at the right side towards the rear with its longer elevation running perpendicular to School Street. Basically a double loaded corridor with offices, - the ample setback from the street, low roofline and simplified utilitarian facade treatment, - allows the Post Office to dominate the site due to its scale and strong architectural treatment.

The exterior walls are constructed of red brick in flemish bond pattern sitting on a granite foundation base with granite steps leading up to the two entrances. The main entrance is reached by a pair of curved stairs on each side of the entrance, from the sidewalk up to an entrance platform, with wrought iron railings and light standards. A flagpole mounted at sidewalk level on a granite base is centered in front of the entrance platform. Free standing marble columns support a marble arched canopy which frames a tympanum panel of a sculptured marble eagle with outspread wings, over the entrance doors. (The original walnut panelled wood doors and leaded glass transom above have been replaced with a standard pair of glazed aluminum doors and transom). This handsome entrance frame sits in a brick wall with a wood double hung window on each side, topped with a marble block incised with the letters "United States Post Office" above which is a marble pediment, blending into the main building's marble cornice and brick parapet. This entrance wall is projected out from the main building wall with marble quoins at each side. On each side of the front entrance wall are two double hung windows in a brick wall panel ending in marble quoins. The walls again are set back before reaching the corner. All double hung windows (8/12) have marble keystone lintels, sills and a plain marble pediment block set between the top of the window and the cornice above. The marble cornice is topped by a brick parapet wall which sits in front of a hip slate roof, sloping up higher than the parapet to become a flat roof over the main portion of the building, formed by a series of steel roof trusses.

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

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet SANFORD MAIN POST OFFICE Item number 7

Page 2

The left side consists of three double hung windows, cornice, parapet and hip roof all as described above, plus a side entrance at the front corner. This entrance is reached by a straight flight of granite steps with wrought iron railings and wall mounted light standards. A marble surround of pilaster columns and entablature holds two marble eagles facing each other with a sculptured marble block in the brick wall above. (Here again, the original doors have been replaced by glazed aluminum doors and transom panel).

The main lobby appears to be preserved in its original state with a carved wood and glass entrance vestibule with glazed panelled wood doors. Marble is used for flooring, base, wainscot and column pilasters. Walls are plaster. Wood panelled window screens above the mail boxes separate the lobby from the workroom. A vaulted plaster ceiling springs from a projected cornice line. The side entrance vestibule is framed with carved wood trim and pediment, with glazed wood panel doors. The opposite end (Postmaster's Office) has three round plaster wall plaques depicting the three modes of mail transportation - ship, train and airplane.

The seven original chandeliers (of wrought iron and glass are hung with brass rope and feature star decoration and are surmounted with brass eagles,) constitute an important part of the interior space.

## **8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD	AF	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	· · · · ·
PREHISTORIC 	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURE ART COMMERCE COMMUNICATIONS	COMMUNITY PLANNING CONSERVATION ECONOMICS EDUCATION ENGINEERING EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT INDUSTRY INVENTION	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE LLAW LITERATURE MILITARY MUSIC PHILOSOPHY POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	RELIGION SCIENCE SCULPTURE SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN THEATER TRANSPORTATION OTHER (SPECIEY)
SPECIFIC DAT	1932 ES 1965: Addition	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	John P. Thomas HITECT 537 Congress St	., Portland, Maine

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

--1965 Addition: Design & Construction Division Boston, Massachusetts

The Town of Sanford, Maine is the site for large manufacturing facilities once devoted to the production of cloth, but now sparsely occupied by various companies of diverse enterprise. The general economy has deteriorated with attendant decline in the physical environment.

The Post Office was built on the site of the home of Thomas Goodall who was the owner and responsible for the development of the woolen mill industry in Sanford. The house on this site was later used as a hospital after Mr. Goodale had constructed the large victorian mansion directly across the Street.

In 1930, Congress authorized increased funding for public buildings in direct response to the depression. Design policy for small post offices continued to be standardization of plans, for economy and to speed the design and construction process in the interest of economic recovery. Where practicable individual treatment was given to exterior details, especially by private architects who received contracts after 1930, to alleviate unemployment in the architectural profession. The Sanford Post Office is an excellent example of a regional architect treating the facade of a standard plan creatively to produce a one of a kind building. The classical symmetry and ornament and creative use of materials and detailing has all come together in this fine example of Federal architecture which was meant to be symbolic of government strength and ideals as well as representing the government's efforts to restore economic health.

Essentially unchanged over the years, the Post Office continues to be one of the most important buildings in Sanford, both architecturally and historically, as well as continuing to maintain the Federal presence in the area.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of Post Office Construction 1900-1940, July, 1982

Craig, Lois, ed. The Federal Presence: Architecture, Politics and Symbols in the United States Government Building, Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 1979

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NAME / TITLE	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
ORGANIZATION	Limon, Architect	<u> </u>	DATE
	DESIGN GROUP, INC.		August 28, 1985
STREET & NUMBER	DEDIGN GROON, INC.		TELEPHONE
44 Adams	Street LAIN LAIN	1.124	<u>94. (617) 848-1545</u>
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			e National Register, certifying that the State
	er has been allowed 90 days in w he evaluated level of significance is		emination to the State Review Board and to
FEDERAL REPRESENTAT			
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	or, Office of Real	Estate	DATE 03/13/86
FOR NPS USE ONLY	<b>A A</b>		
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#### 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--Sanford Main NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MAINE, York

DATE RECEIVED: 12/08/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/23/11 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 86000882

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

A P	
RECOM./CRITERIA	Alr. k
REVIEWER Com Beall	DISCIPLINE Herlong
TELEPHONE	DATE 12-CEOU

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.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# DEC C8 251,

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property US POST OFFICE - SANFORD MAIN

County and State YORK CO., MAINE

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number 10 Page 1

COUNTY, TownNAMENR ID #Correct UTM'sYork, SanfordUS Post Office<br/>- Sanford Main8600088219/356509/4810739

The above UTM coordinates replace the incorrect coordinates provided in the original nomination/registration form for this property.

