

PH0002160

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM  
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Florida</b>
COUNTY: <b>Hillsborough</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>JUN 7 1974</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Federal Building, U. S. Courthouse, Downtown Postal Station**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**U. S. Post Office, Courthouse and Custom House (until March 27, 1970)**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**601 Florida Avenue (Florida, Zack, Marion, Twigg) streets surrounding block**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Tampa** Zip **33601** 2950

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**Florida Congressional District 7**

STATE: **Florida** CODE **12** COUNTY: **Hillsborough** CODE **057**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <b>US Post Office</b> <b>US Courthouse</b>

**4. AGENCY**

**General Services Administration**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)  
**GSA Region 4**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1776 Peachtree Street, NW.**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Atlanta**

STATE:  
**Georgia** CODE **13**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
**Hillsborough County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Pierce Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Tampa**

STATE:  
**Florida** CODE **12**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**None**

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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COUNTY:  
ENTRY NUMBER:  
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## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The site of the U. S. Post Office, Courthouse and Custom House is a full city block centered in the original Tampa city limits. The original building was centered in the block, resulting in generous landscaped setbacks front and rear of approximately fifty-six feet and twenty-eight feet each side. 1913 and 1915 photographs indicate regularly spaced cabbage palms at the sidewalk line surrounded the entire block, thus creating a visual "fence" which separated the site from the surrounding area and added to the monumentality of the building.

Although designed in eclectic Renaissance Revival style, the relative simplicity and rectangularity of massing and details indicates strong Greek Revival influence. The original building was planned as a "U" open to the rear. The entrance facade is symmetrical, and the Palladian expression of an elevated central portico flanked by two wings is achieved by slightly projecting the central mass forward and providing a monumental stairway. The ground floor is expressed as a stylobate of lightly rusticated gray granite containing small square windows. The first floor is the main floor and is reached by the monumental stair terminating in a shallow portico containing four Corinthian columns "in antis" with four flat matching pilasters close behind. The columns and pilasters extend to the building entablature at the fourth floor. The height of the first floor is strongly expressed in a continuous horizontal band of horizontally rusticated marble one story high, topped by a strong rectangular string course. The third and fourth floor heights are combined in exterior expression, with rectangular windows appearing as vertical elements separated by two-story high buff brick panels terminating at the entablature. The entablature supports a pronounced projecting cornice bearing dentils and surmounted by a continuous balustrade. The low-pitched hipped roof is not expressed.

Although the interior of the building has undergone continuing remodeling, with the exception of the first floor all original corridor partitions, natural oak doors, transoms, terrazzo floors and bases, hardware, and natural oak trim appear to remain in excellent condition.

Construction began in 1902, and the building was completed by 1905. An addition was constructed in 1931, and completely occupied all space within property lines at the rear of the building. Although the visual separation of the building from its surroundings was diminished, the addition is remarkably faithful in duplicating and extending the original detailing, including slightly modified interior trim. An exterior stair tower, insensitively detailed but not glaringly obtrusive, was added on the south elevation in the 1960's.

The original building was 153'-4" wide and 97'-0" deep, enclosing a courtyard open to the rear approximately 44' wide and 57' deep. The 1931 addition to the rear of the building completed the enclosure of the courtyard. The addition is 207'-8" wide and 43'-0" deep, and is symmetrical about the centerline of the original building, projecting approximately 27' beyond each side.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **Constructed 1902-05; Major remodelling 1931**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

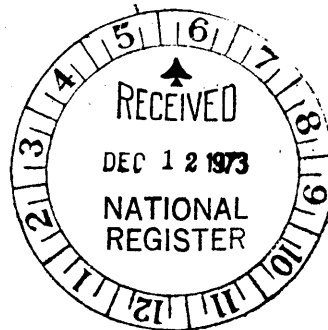
- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science              | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture            | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian  | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater              | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation       | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |   |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The original U. S. Post Office, Courthouse and Custom House construction drawings were completed by James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect, Treasury Department, in 1902, and construction was completed in 1905. The building is an excellent example of the classic revival design and advanced type of construction developed by the Treasury Department in the latter half of the 19th century.

This building is the oldest significant building in Tampa, originally designed for government use; it is the only civic building in Tampa constructed in the eclectic Renaissance style; and its central location and generous open spaces continue its importance as a focal point of downtown Tampa. Its significance is recognized by the Hillsborough County Planning Commission, and it is an important element in the planned re-development of the downtown area.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

- (1) General Services Administration, Public Buildings Service, Region 4, Building Evaluation Report, File No. 44 H5 BER Tampa FB CT PO.
- (2) Prints of Original and Subsequent Construction Drawings, Building Manager's Office, Federal Office Building, 500 Zack Street, Tampa, Florida, 33602.
- (3) Hamlin, Talbot, Greek Revival Architecture in America, Dover Publications, Inc., 1964; pp. 49-51, 107-111; Figure 5, p.50.
- (4) Photographic Negatives by Burgert Bros., c/o Henry Cox, Tampa Photo Supply Warehouse, Tampa, Fla.; No. 77527-2, 78041, V3061, 132, 133, & unno'd.

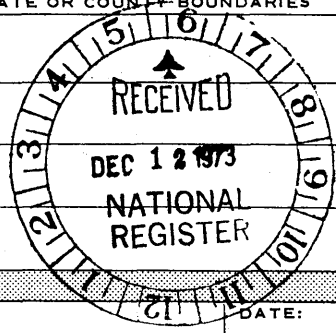
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "		Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		27° 56' 59"	82° 27' 27"	
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **± two acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: **Herschel E. Shepard, Vice-President** DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS ADDRESS: **Fisher & Shepard, Architects, & Planners, Inc.  
456 University Blvd. North, Jacksonville, Florida**

STREET AND NUMBER: **456 University Blvd. North** PHONE: **(904) 725-1112**

CITY OR TOWN: **Jacksonville** STATE: **Florida 32211** CODE: **12**

**12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION**

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

Yes  
 No  
 None

*[Signature]*  
 State Liaison Officer Signature

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

Local

*[Signature]* **2/6/74**  
 Federal Representative Signature Date

Historic Preservation  
 Liaison Officer

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

*[Signature]*  
 Associate Director, Professional Services

**JUN 7 1974**  
 Date

ATTEST:

*[Signature]*  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date **6-4-74**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

STATE Florida	
COUNTY Hillsborough	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 7 1974

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**1. NAME**

COMMON: Federal Building, U.S. Courthouse, Downtown Postal Station  
AND/OR HISTORIC: U.S. Post Office, Courthouse and Custom House

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
601 Florida Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:  
Tampa

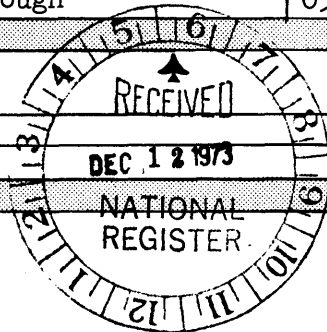
STATE: Florida	CODE 12	COUNTY: Hillsborough	CODE 057
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**3. MAP REFERENCE**

SOURCE:  
U.S.G.S. 7.5' Series, Tampa Quadrangle  
SCALE: 1:24,000  
DATE: 1956, Photorevised 1969

**4. REQUIREMENTS**

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
  2. North arrow.
  3. Latitude and longitude reference.



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

4440 II SE  
(CITRUS PARK)

82° 30' 28' 00" 353000m E 354 355 R. 18 E. 356 27' 30" 357

TAMPA, FLA.  
N2752.5 - W827.5  
RECEIVED  
195 DEC 1 8 1973  
PHOTO REVISÉ 1969  
AMS 4539 TV NW SERIES V847  
NATIONAL REGISTER

27° 56' 59"  
82° 27' 27"

