

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

APR 12 1984

DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

U. S. Post Office and Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

Post Office and Courthouse

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

2100 9th Street

N/A NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Meridian

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3rd

STATE

Mississippi

CODE

28

COUNTY

Lauderdale

CODE

075

3 CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION | <input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: |

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

Memphis Field Real Estate & Buildings Office, U. S. Postal Service

STREET & NUMBER

1 North Front Street, P. O. Drawer 3744

CITY, TOWN

Memphis

N/A VICINITY OF

STATE

Tennessee 38173-0744

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Lauderdale County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

500 21st Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Meridian

STATE

Mississippi 39301

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Survey of Historic Sites

DATE

1983

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN

Jackson

STATE

Mississippi

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" 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 | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Post Office and Courthouse in Meridian, Mississippi is a three-story limestone building with basement and built-up composition roof. The elevated main floor is made accessible by a flight of granite steps with cast iron railings. The street facade of first floor is divided into eleven bays reading window-window-window-window-door-door-door-window-window-window-window. There is a bronze grill over the front doors with ear of corn design. The words "Neither Snow Nor Rain Nor Gloom Of Night Shall Stay These Couriers" are on ledge above front bays of the building. The base of flagpole is marble and there are four lamps across front of building entrance. The lamps are glass world globes with two colors of amber; the darker shade is used for the continents.

The front foyer has two granite steps which lead into the public lobby. It has four gray marble columns; two in the middle which divide steps and one at each end against the wall. There is a marble mosaic in the center of the foyer floor.

The public lobby has Premier Napoleon Gray marble floors with Georgia Verde Antique marble borders. The three original lobby desks are still intact and are marble, steel and bronze. All the exposed metal on these desks is bronze and the building directory is of cast bronze. All door subjams, sills, heads and mullions are of extruded bronze. The base, risers and borders of the stairways are of Georgia Verde Antique marble and the threads and landing floors are Premier Napeoleon Gray marble.

The building has terra cotta coping above which is a parapet with design of eagle and a steer with ears of corn hanging from his ears. "Legend" has it that the corn design in this building should have been in a building in Nebraska and this building should have had a magnolia design as magnolia is the state flower.

The basement and first floor of the building was extended in the rear and was completed in approximately 1963. The structural integrity of the original exterior is not affected by the addition.

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 | 1931/33 | 1962/63 | BUILDER/ARCHITECT | Ralph Sollitt & Sons Constr. Co. 528 E. Sample, South Bend, Indiana |
| STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE | | | | General Contractor R.J.Krouse & Frank Fort, Architects Meridian, Mississippi - 1931 |

The Meridian Post Office-Courthouse is an excellent example of Art Deco architectural design and, while Mississippi has any number of Art Deco buildings, it is our opinion that the Post Office is among the finest such examples. It is interesting to note that a local architectural firm designed the building. Treasury Department staff architect Louis A. Simon was Superintendent of Architectural Division.

The extension and remodeling that was accomplished in 1963 under the auspices of the General Services Administration was designed by L. L. Brasfield, Architect and the General Contractor for this project was B & M Construction Company, Meridian.

Ogden L. Mills was Secretary of the Treasury and James A. Farley was Postmaster General at the time original building was constructed. James A. Wetmore was Acting Supervising Architect.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Meridian Post Office Files
Blue Prints and Specifications for Building

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.38

UTM REFERENCES

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|------|---------|----------|---|--|--|--|--|
| A | 1,6 | 3,40 | 0,7,0 | 3,5 | 8,2 | 1,3,0 | B | | | | |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING | | | | | |
| C | | | | | | | D | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots one (1) through sixteen (16) of Block Fifty-seven (57) of and according to Ragsdale's Survey of the City of Meridian, County of Lauderdale, and State of Mississippi.

The property nominated is indicated by the crossed lines on the accompanying U.S.G.S. map entitled Meridian South, Miss. Scale 1:24000.

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| N/A | | | |
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
| N/A | | | |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ila Ree Odom, Realty Management & Acquisition Analyst

ORGANIZATION

U. S. Postal Service

DATE

August 1, 1983

STREET & NUMBER

1 North Front Street

TELEPHONE

901/521-3131

CITY OR TOWN

Memphis

STATE

Tennessee 38173-0744

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

Deputy 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

TITLE Director, Office of Real Estate

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Ken Dubois

DATE

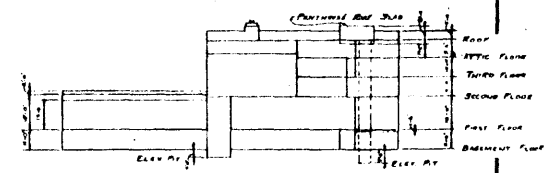
5/17/1984

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

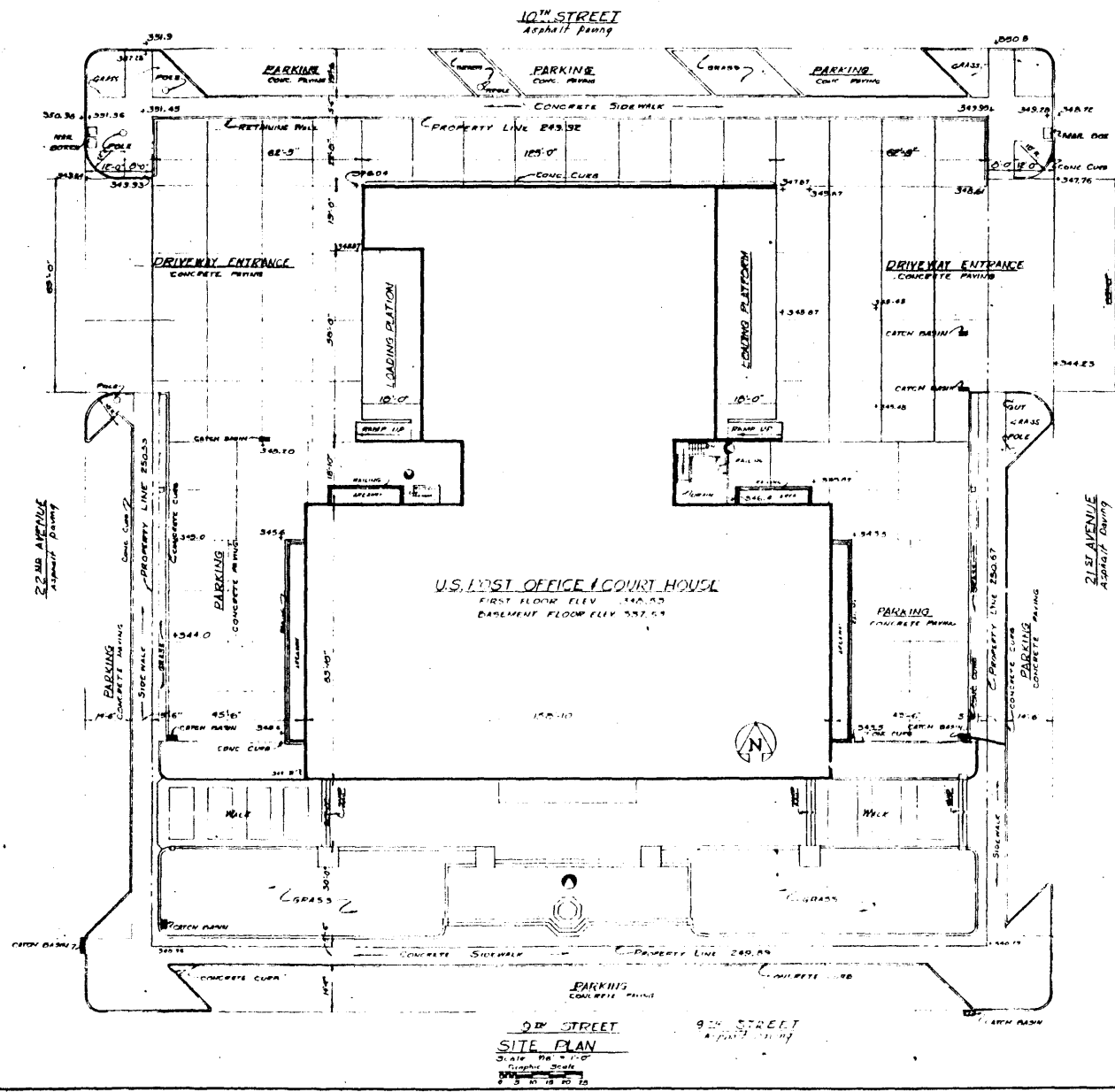
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



LONGITUDINAL SECTION
 Scale 1/8" = 1'-0"
 Graphic Scale
 0 10 20 30 40 50



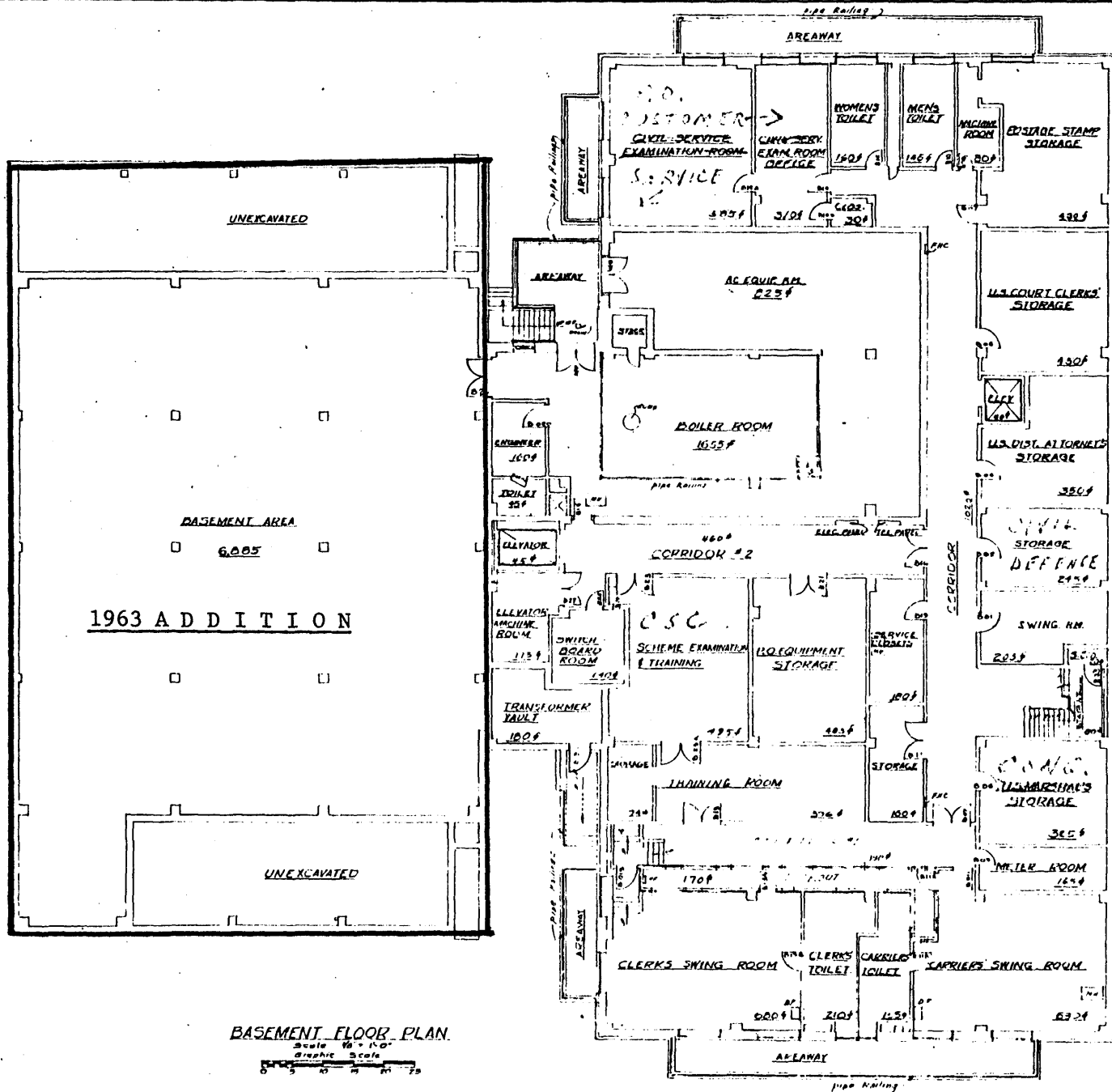
SITE PLAN
 SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"
 GRAPHIC SCALE
 0 5 10 15 20 25

GROSS AREA OF LOT 62,800
 GROUND AREA OF BUILDING 24,334
 TOTAL VOLUME OF THE BUILDING (253,100)

GRAND TOTALS FOR BUILDING

| In Square Feet | |
|--|---------------|
| Net Agency Areas Including Custodial Areas (Except P.O.) | 15,000 |
| Net Post Office Areas | 33,600 |
| Net Assignable Areas | 48,600 |
| Construction Areas | 42,200 |
| GROSS AREAS | 91,000 |

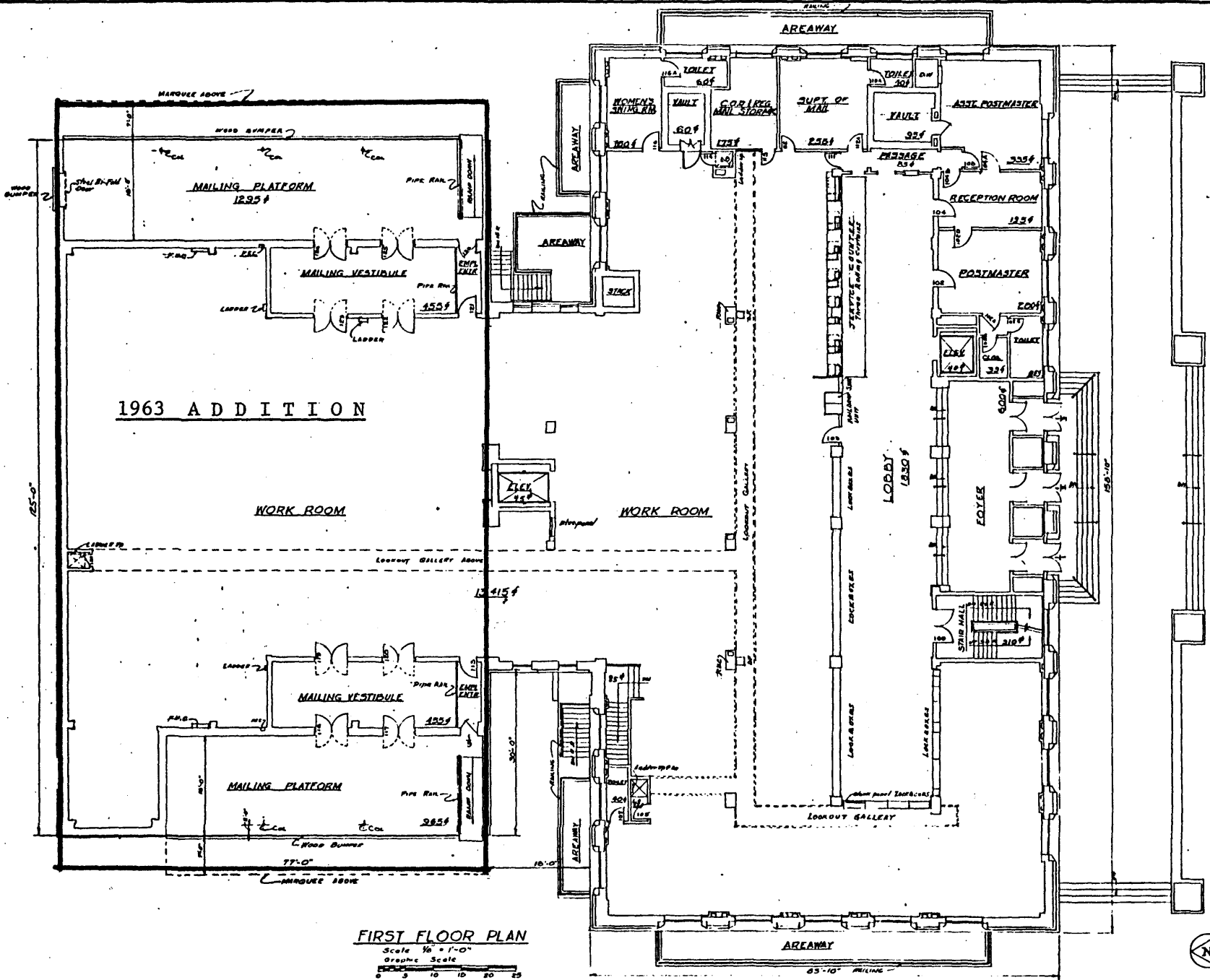
| | |
|-----------------|--|
| PROJECT | U.S. POST OFFICE COURT HOUSE |
| LOCATION | 21st AVENUE, 9th STREET, 8th STREET, ATLANTA, GA |
| DATE | 10/11/57 |
| DESIGNED BY | ... |
| DRAWN BY | ... |
| CHECKED BY | ... |
| DATE | 10/11/57 |
| PROJECT TITLE | SITE PLAN |
| ASSIGNMENT PLAN | 14-1 of 8 |



BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN.
 Scale 1/8" = 1'-0"
 Graphic Scale
 0 5 10 15 20 25

BASEMENT PLAN
 In Square Feet
 Net Agency Areas including
 Control Areas (Excl. PD) 2,400
 Net Prod. Office Areas 11,240
 Net Assignable Areas 13,640
 Circulation, Mechanical &
 Construction Areas 10,725
GROSS AREA 24,355

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------|--------|
| Revised | 2-1-67 | | |
| DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION DIVISION REGION - ATLANTA, GEORGIA | | | |
| GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION | | | |
| PROJECT | U.S. DISTRICT COURT, 400 WEST HOUSE | | |
| LOCATION | MEMPHIS, MISSISSIPPI | | |
| STREET | 5th ST. SW. & 7th ST. AVE. | | |
| DATE | 1-1-67 | FILE | |
| DATE | 1-1-67 | DESIGNER | SHREVE |
| DATE | 1-1-67 | ENGINEER | SHREVE |
| BASEMENT FLOOR ALIGNMENT PLANS | | | |
| DATE | 1-2-67 | 14.2 of 18 | |

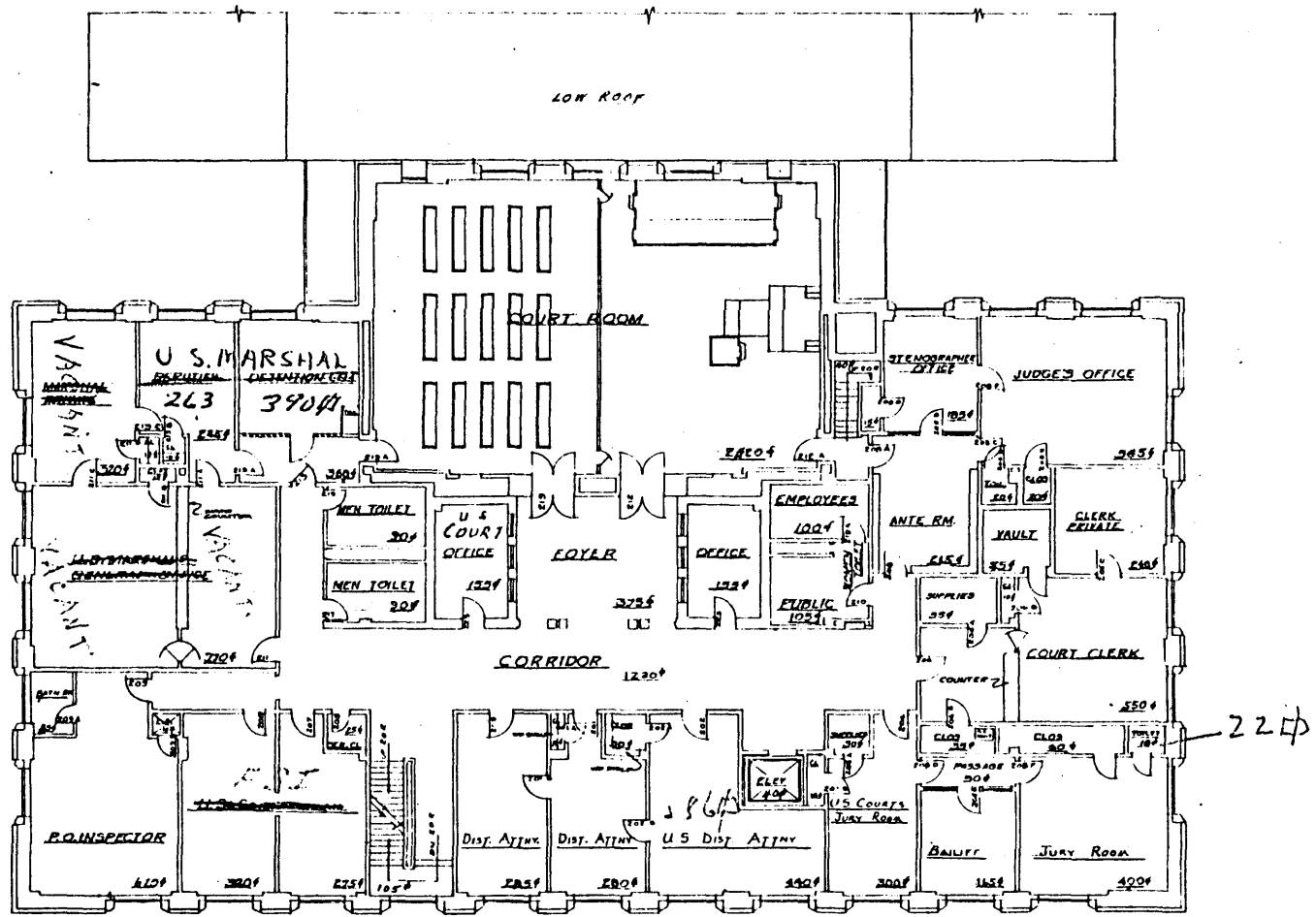


FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 Scale 1/8" = 1'-0"
 Graphic Scale

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

| | |
|--|-----------|
| In Square Feet | |
| Net Agency Areas Including Custodial Areas (Except P.O.) | 20 |
| Net Post Office Areas | 20 |
| Net Assignable Areas | 20 |
| Circulation, Mechanical and Construction Areas | 4 |
| GROSS AREAS | 24 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| DESIGNED BY | CONSTRUCTION DIV. |
| REGION 4 - ATLANTA, GEORGIA | |
| GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION | |
| PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICE | |
| PROJECT | U.S. POST OFFICE COUR |
| LOCATION | MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI |
| STREET | 9th St. ZONE 4 22nd AVE |
| FILE NO. | |
| DRAWN BY | DUNN |
| CHECKED BY | |
| DATE | 12-10-67 |
| TITLE | FIRST FLOOR PLAN |
| ASSIGNMENT PLAN | |
| NO. | 14-3 of 6 |



SECOND FLOOR PLAN
 In Square Feet
 Net Agency Areas Including
 Custodial Area (Except P.O.)
 Net Post Office Areas
 Net Assignable Areas
 Circulation, Mechanical &
 Construction Areas
 (GROSS AREA)

SECOND FLOOR PLAN
 Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"
 Graphic Scale
 0 5 10 15 20 25



| | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------|
| DESIGNED BY | ARCHITECT | DATE |
| LOCATED BY | CONSTRUCTION | REGION |
| GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION PUBLIC BUILDINGS SERVICE DIVISION | | |
| PROJECT | 115 NORTH CAPITOL CITY | |
| LOCATION | 444 N. W. AVENUE, N.W., ATLANTA, GA. | |
| CLIENT | U.S. DISTRICT COURT | |
| PROJECT NO. | 115-100 | |
| DATE | 12-10-60 | |
| SCALE | 1/4" = 1'-0" | |
| TITLE | SECOND FLOOR ASSIGNMENT PLAN | |
| NO. | 14-5 of 8 | |



U. S. POST OFFICE & COURTHOUSE
MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI

Photographer: Ila Ree Odom/USPS

Date: June 7, 1983

Front View - Facing North

No. 1 of 3 Photographs



U. S. POST OFFICE & COURTHOUSE
MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI

Photographer: Ila Ree Odom/USPS

Date: June 7, 1983

Right View - Facing Northeast

No. 2 of 3 Photographs



U. S. POST OFFICE & COURTHOUSE
MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI

Photographer: Ila Ree Odom/USPS

Date: June 7, 1983

Left View - Facing Northwest

No. 3 of 3 Photographs