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

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 MAR 7 1985
DATE ENTERED APR 18 1985

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
WATER VALLEY POST OFFICE

AND/OR COMMON
Post Office

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
2322 Main Street — N/A NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN — N/A VICINITY OF — CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Water Valley — 1st

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Mississippi 38965	28	Yalobusha	161

2 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	X PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	__PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	NA PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	X GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__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 — STATE
Memphis — N/A VICINITY OF — Tennessee 38173-0744

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Yalobusha County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN — STATE
Water Valley — Mississippi 38965

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Statewide Survey of Historic Sites

DATE
1978 — __FEDERAL X STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Mississippi Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN — STATE
Jackson — Mississippi 35205

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
_EXCELLENT	_DETERIORATED	_UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	_RUINS	X ALTERED	_MOVED DATE_____
_FAIR	_UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Water Valley, Mississippi Post Office is a white stucco building located at 2322 Main Street. It has one and one-half floors and a partial basement, and was occupied in 1925. This is a concrete and masonry structure with steel and wood framing. The flat composition roof has a parapet running the full course of the roof.

The mailing platform and ramp were added to the rear of the building in 1969. The building interior was remodeled in 1961 and very little of the original interior appearance was retained.

The street facade of first floor is divided into three bays reading window-door-window. The double hung windows, 12/12 lights, on the first floor of the front facade have recessed arches and the central bay is outsized Palladin composition. Two lanterns attached to the main facade flank this central doorway. The main floor is made accessible by a flight of granite steps with cast iron railing.

Form No. 10-300a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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The Water Valley, Yalobusha County, Mississippi Post Office is located on a rectangular parcel of land; the said point of beginning being the northeast corner of a certain strip of land 10 feet in width deeded to the City of Water Valley by W. C. Bryant (north side of Church Street) and go in a northerly direction along the western boundary line of Main Street 135 feet; then west along a line parallel with the northern boundary of Church Street 140 feet; then in a southerly direction along a line parallel with Main Street 135 feet to a point on the north boundary line of the aforesaid 10 feet strip of land deeded to the City of Water Valley by W. C. Bryant, and go in an easterly direction along a line parallel with the north boundary of said Church Street, said line being the north boundary line of the 10 feet strip of land deeded by W. C. Bryant to the City of Water Valley, and line being at all points 10 feet north of the north boundary line of Church Street, to the point of beginning.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION	
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE	
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE	
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER	
__1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION	
X 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		__INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1925/1961/1969 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Virginia Engineering Company/ James A. Wetmore

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Water Valley, Mississippi Post Office is of the Neo-classical Revival architecture and successfully re-interprets the innovative "revolutionary architecture" of the late eighteenth century which paralleled international political upheavals of that era. The facade is noteworthy for the allusions to stepped massing in the progressively diminished horizontal divisions, and for contrast between flat lintels and recessed arches in the fenestration. The compositional tension produced by the distortion of the outsized Palladin motif in the central bay is particularly compelling. The structural integrity of the building is not affected by the 1969 addition.

This building is significant on a local level as it represents the only building of this style in the town. It is of particular significance due to the fact that most of the original and/or older buildings in the vicinity have been destroyed.

The original building, which was occupied in 1925, was constructed under the supervision of the Treasury Department when A. W. Mellon was Secretary of Treasury. James A. Westmore was Acting Supervising Architect. Virginia Engineering Company, Newport News, Virigina, was the General Contractor with John Young of that firm being the Construction Engineer. This was the first building for Virginia Engineering and it is now a multi-million dollar firm.

The building interior was remodeled in 1961 under the supervision of the General Services Administration. Carothers and Carothers, a local firm, was the construction contractor.

The 1969 addition of a mailing platform and ramp was designed by Maloney Associates with Challendar Construction Company as the construction contractor.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Water Valley Post Office Files
Blue Prints and Specifications for Building

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .43

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	16	257040	3782025
B			
C			
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property nominated is indicated by the crossed lines on the accompanying U.S.G.S. map entitled Water Valley, Mississippi. Scale 1:62500

See continuation sheet for Verbal Boundary Description.

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, Real Estate Specialist

ORGANIZATION
U. S. Postal Service

DATE
December 5, 1984

STREET & NUMBER
1 North Front Street, P. O. Drawer 3744

TELEPHONE
901/521-3131

CITY OR TOWN
Memphis

STATE
Tennessee 38173-0744

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES X NO ___ NONE ___

Kenneth H. P'Pool
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 X Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE Director, Office of Real Estate DATE 2/26/85

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Beth Grosvenor DATE 4/18/85

for DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

GPO 899-214


UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

U. S. POST OFFICE
WATER VALLEY, MISSISSIPPI
Photographer: Ila Ree Odom/USPS
Date: July 3, 1984

Front View: Facing West

No. 1 of 2 Photographs



U. S. POST OFFICE
WATER VALLEY, MISSISSIPPI
Photographer: Ila Ree Odom/USPS
Date: July 3, 1984

Street View to the Right:
Facing Northwest

No. 2 of 2 Photographs