

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name U. S. Post Office

other names/site number AR0155

2. Location

street & number 302 South Maple not for publication

city or town Stuttgart vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Arkansas code 001 zip code 72160

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

U.S. Post Office

Name of Property

Arkansas County, Arkansas

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/Post Office

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th & 20th CENTURY
REVIVALS/Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

roof Asphalt composition shingle, metal

other Limestone

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

[X] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

[] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

[X] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

[] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

[] A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

[] B removed from its original location.

[] C. birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.

[] D a cemetery.

[] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

[] F a commemorative property

[] G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance

within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

[] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

[] previously listed in the National Register

[] Previously determined eligible by the National Register

[] designated a National Historic Landmark

[] recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

[] recorded by Historic American Engineering

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

GOVERNMENT/POLITICS

Period of Significance

1931 - 1954

Significant Dates

1931

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

Architect/Builder

James A. Wetmore/Acting Supervising Architect, GSA

J. A. Auges, Contractor

Record # _____

U.S. Post Office

Name of Property

Arkansas County, Arkansas

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 15 632765 3818326 3 Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
2 4 See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ralph Wilcox
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 8/25/03
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone 501-324-9787
city or town Little Rock state AR zip code 72201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Stuttgart
street & number 514 S. Main Telephone 870-673-4566
city or town Stuttgart state AR zip code 72160

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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SUMMARY

The post office building was the beginning of a permanent home for mail service in Stuttgart. Having ten different locations prior to the 1930s, approval was given to build a permanent location for the post office in 1931. An addition was constructed in 1966, increasing the work space by 3,000 square feet. This building served the community until the summer of 2002 when a new post office was built in Stuttgart. This one story brick building with a partial basement is a good example of Neoclassical/Colonial Revival design. The building is located on the southwest corner of Maple and Third Streets, one block west of the downtown Main Street shopping area. The interior has had minor changes over the years with most being made at the time of the addition. Marble wainscoting in the foyer was installed at that time. The exterior is in excellent condition and only changed by a ramp off the south side of the entry porch in 1995 for handicap accessibility. The addition in 1966 was designed to match the existing building.

ELABORATION

The Stuttgart Post Office is a one-story, rectangular-shaped building located on the corner of Maple and Third Streets. It was built in 1931, in the Colonial Revival style, with Neoclassical influences. In 1966, two modifications were made. The first was the expansion of the rear work space by 3,000 square feet on the north façade of the building. The new space was designed by the Government Services Administration, and the contractor was ACS Construction Company of Greenwood, Mississippi. The addition was constructed to match existing brick, mortar, windows, and concrete casements. The second addition was the concrete parking lot to the south of the building.

Front/East Façade

The main floor of the building is raised with four concrete steps going up to the full height entry porch which has four limestone columns. This entry is on the east side of the building facing Maple Street. There are six wood-framed, double hung, twelve-over-twelve windows, two of which are to the left of the entry, with the remaining four to the right. They are aligned horizontally in symmetrical rows with limestone sills, keystone lintels and limestone swags above them. The cornice has limestone dentil work which goes around the entire building with pineapples featured at the corners.

Side/North Façade

The north side of the building is comprised of six wood-framed, double-hung, twelve-over-twelve windows. Each of the six windows consists of the same elements as the windows on the front façade: limestone sills, keystone lintels and limestone swags. The cornice on the north façade is the same as on the east, with the same limestone dentil work featuring pineapples at the corners. This feature continues in the same manner along the remaining two facades of the building.

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Rear/West Façade

The loading dock is located at the West façade. Five concrete steps lead up to the dock, which is covered by a flat roof that is supported by five metal posts. There are two sets of double doors at the loading dock, one of which is in the center of the dock, and the other is on the left side of the dock. A third entry is located on the right side of the loading dock, and is a single door. There is a single wood-framed, double-hung, twelve-over-twelve window in the extreme left corner of this façade. The cornice on the west façade is the same as on the east, with the same limestone dentil work featuring pineapples at the corners.

Side/South Façade

On the south facade of the building there are concrete stairs leading down to the basement level with double doors for entry to that floor. There are windows and light wells on this facade. The window wells for the basement windows are formed with limestone and are the full height of the basement windows. There are six wood-framed, double-hung, twelve-over-twelve windows on the main floor of this façade, with one wood-framed, double-hung one-over-one window between the fifth and sixth windows. These six windows have the same architectural elements as the windows on the north and east facades: limestone sills, keystone lintels and limestone swags. There is another light well at the extreme left corner of this façade, as well as a pair of wood-framed, double-hung, six-over-six windows. The cornice on the south façade is the same as on the east, with the same limestone dentil work featuring pineapples at the corners.

Interior

The interior has had minor changes over the years with most being made at the time of the addition. Marble wainscoting in the foyer was installed at that time.

INTEGRITY

The Stuttgart Post Office retains good architectural integrity, and closely reflects the time of its construction in 1931. The building retains its original windows, and all of the entrances are intact. Though there is a 3,000 square foot modification that was added to the north façade of the building in 1966, the Government Services Administration and ACS Construction Company, of Greenwood, Mississippi, took special care to match existing brick, mortar, windows and concrete casements. This modification does not overpower the original building.

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Section number 8 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Stuttgart Post Office located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Maple and Third Streets in Stuttgart, Arkansas, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C** with **local significance** for its good Neoclassical/Colonial Revival style architecture and **Criterion A** for its association with the development of postal services in Stuttgart.

ELABORATION

In 1813 Arkansas County was created. It contained over $\frac{3}{4}$ of the present state. In 1821 other counties were taken out of this county and counties would continue to be formed out of Arkansas County for approximately forty years. In 1862 the State Legislature and General Assembly passed an Ordinance for the benefit of Arkansas County which prohibited any more counties being formed from this county without the vote of the people of Arkansas County. By 1889 the current boundaries of the county were established.

In October 1878, the Reverend Adam Buerkle and twelve families of German immigrants founded a settlement at the former Gum Pond Plantation on the Grand Prairie in Arkansas County. The next year the small colony was joined by sixteen additional families and in 1880, Adam Buerkle petitioned for a post office named Stuttgart, after Buerkle's old home in Germany. The county's first post office was established in the Buerkle home in 1880. The Stuttgart Post Office moved about ten times before approval to build this building came in 1931. Congressman D. D. Glover was credited with getting the bill through Congress to build the new Post Office building in 1931.

The current building was started in 1931 with the General Services Administration's James A. Wetmore serving as Acting Supervising Architect, and J.A. Auges as General Contractor. The building was dedicated the following year, in 1932. Carl Denslow was postmaster at that time. The Stuttgart Post Office received a first class rating in 1944. The advancement in class is determined by the amount of revenue taken in by a post office. The Stuttgart Post Office started out servicing 15 families and in 1970 made 4,512 family deliveries, (city and rural), and 373 business deliveries. The original building was reported to have cost around \$60,000.

In 1966, 3,000 square feet of additional work space was added to the north side of the building. The remodeling project was reported to cost \$144,957. This was again handled by the Government Services Administration and the contractor was ACS Construction Company of Greenwood, Mississippi. The addition matched existing brick, mortar, windows and concrete casements. A new parking lot was also built on the south side of the building. In 1995 a new ramp was added onto the south side of the front entry porch to make the building handicapped accessible.

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In the fall of 2002 the Stuttgart Post Office was relocated to a new building on Michigan Avenue. This ended more than 70 years of service to the public from its location on Maple and Third streets. In December, 2002, the City of Stuttgart purchased the building from the Postal Service and is in the process of converting the building into an administration building for the city.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Stuttgart Post Office located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Maple and Third Streets in Stuttgart, Arkansas, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C** with **local significance** for its good Neoclassical/Colonial Revival style architecture and **Criterion A** for its association with the development of postal services in Stuttgart.

U. S. Post Office

Name of Property

Arkansas County, Arkansas

County and State

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National Park Service

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Bibliography

Burkett, Mrs. Billy J., "History of Stuttgart Post Office", *The Stuttgart Standard* October 19, 1970; Nov. 5, 1970; Nov. 12, 1970.

_____, "City Post Office Undergoes First Remodeling, Expansion", *Stuttgart Daily Leader Progress Edition*, 1967.

Riddick, Vickie, "Post Office Experiences Growing Pains Several Times", *Stuttgart Daily Leader*, March 30, 2001.

A Bicentennial Project of the 4-H Program Council, Arkansas Americana: Fact or Fiction, 1976.

U. S. Post Office

Name of Property

Arkansas County, Arkansas

County and State

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the northeast corner of Block 5 of Porter's Addition to the City of Stuttgart, running thence South along the West line of Maple Street, One Hundred Seventy (170) feet; thence running West One Hundred Fifty (150) feet; thence running North One Hundred Seventy (170) feet to the South line of Third Street; running thence East along the South line of Third Street One Hundred Fifty (150) feet to the point of beginning, same being a parcel of ground fronting 170 feet on Maple Street and fronting 150 feet on Third Street, lying in the County of Arkansas and State of Arkansas.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary contains the land that is historically associated with the Stuttgart Post Office.