

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania	
COUNTY: Lycoming	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

**USE THIS COPY
FOR DUPLICATING**

1. NAME

COMMON:
Post Office
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Federal Building

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
West Fourth Street between Government Place and West Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Williamsport
STATE: **Pennsylvania** CODE: **42** COUNTY: **Lycoming** CODE: **081**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
General Services Administration
STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 3321, 18th and F Streets, N.W.
CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **D. C.** CODE: **11**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Lycoming County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:
Northeast corner of West Third Street and Pine Street
CITY OR TOWN: **Williamsport** STATE: **Pennsylvania** CODE: **42**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey
DATE OF SURVEY: **1971** Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **D. C.** CODE: **11**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Pennsylvania**
COUNTY: **Lycoming**
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

Rep. Herman T. Schneebeli

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Post Office is located on the block bounded on the north by West Fourth Street, on the east by Government Place, on the south by Willow Street and on the east by West Street, near its intersection with Hepburn Street. The front facade with the principal entrance faces north onto West Fourth Street; there is a secondary entrance on the west facade, at the northwest corner of the building.

Number of stories: The west portion of the building is three stories high, while the east portion, which has its gable end facing West Fourth Street, is two and one-half stories high. Between these sections is a six-story tower. A two-story addition extends across the south side of the building and is linked to the main part of the building by a one story connection.

Layout, shape of plan: The central part of the structure is nearly rectangular in plan, with the sections immediately flanking the tower being slightly recessed in plan. A corridor opening off of the West Fourth Street entrance extends east and west along the north side of the building and opens into a lobby at the northeast corner of the building. Customer service windows are located along the south side of the corridor and the east side of the lobby. An open well, two flight staircase located at the south end of the lobby rises to the second story and third story. On the second floor, offices open off a central hallway running east to west. At the east end of the second story a court room extends the width of the building. On the third floor offices open similarly off a central hallway. The addition on the south side of the building is rectangular in plan.

Number of bays: Arched and square-headed openings are grouped in various arrangements on the different stories.

Wall construction: The walls of the building are faced with rough-faced gray limestone ashlar, reportedly quarried in Pennsylvania. The walls are enriched with dressed stone architraves, belt courses, water table, and balconies and with intricately detailed column capitals at the entranceways.

Roof: The roofs over most sections of the building are hipped. The roof over the court room at the east end of the building is gabled, and the tower has a pyramidal roof. The roof surfaces are covered with dark gray slate and are richly accented with copper flashing, cresting, and finials. Below the roofline are corbeled stone cornices.

Notable interior finishes: The interior of the building retains much of its original fabric including marble floors

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Pennsylvania	
COUNTY	
Lycoming	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Williamsport Post Office, cont.

Section 7, Description, cont.

and paneled wooden wainscoting.

Landscaping: A low iron fence set in curbing separates the concrete sidewalks from small plots of grass along the West Fourth Street and West Street facades. There are shade trees near the northeast corner and the northwest corner of the building, and bushes flank the West Fourth Street entrance.

Section 9, Major Bibliographical References, cont.

Lloyd, Thomas W. History of Lycoming County, Pennsylvania.
Vol. I. Topeka: Historical Publishing Co., 1929.

Meginness, John F. History of Lycoming County, Pennsylvania.
Chicago: Brown, Runk & Co., 1892.

Smith, Darrell Hevener. The Office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury, Its History, Activities, and Organization. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1923.

Thayer, R. H. History, Organization, and Functions of the Office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1886.

Williamsport Sun-Gazette. 1970-1971.

Withey, Henry F., and Withey, Elsie Rathburn. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased). Los Angeles: New Age Publishing Co., 1956.

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)

1888-1891

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located at an important intersection in the central business district, the Williamsport Post Office has since its erection been a city landmark. Occupying an entire city block, the Post Office, with its tower rising majestically six stories above richly textured facades, is a critical element of the streetscape of one of the city's principal thoroughfares, West Fourth Street. The proportions, massing, fenestration, and detailing of the building combine to create a sense of monumentality and quality of design which rank the structure among the most notable governmental buildings of its era.

Construction of the Post Office was begun in 1888 to the designs of William A. Freret, Supervising Architect of the Treasury. Upon its completion in 1891, the building was hailed as an imposing, elegant stone structure, and residents took pride in the fact that construction costs had fallen short of the amount appropriated. The building today is notably well maintained and little altered. Additions to the rear of the structure have been carefully planned to respect the older portions' integrity and high quality construction. Today, eighty years after its completion, the Williamsport Post Office is an irreplaceable architectural resource to the city because of its design, urbanistic qualities, and fine construction.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The American Architect and Building News, Vol. 23 (February 25, 1888), p. 91, pl. 635.

Annual Report of the Supervising Architect to the Secretary of the Treasury for the Year Ending September 30, 1882. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1882. (also the corresponding reports for 1883-1892).

A History of Public Buildings Under the Control of the Treasury Department. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1901.

CONT.

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	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		41	14	24
SE	° ' "	° ' "		77	00	23
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Diana Steck Waite, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: _____ DATE: **Sept., 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:
1920 Fifth Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: **Troy** STATE: **New York** CODE: **36**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:
 National State Local

Name S. K. Stecker
 Title 1/2/72
 Date _____

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

 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

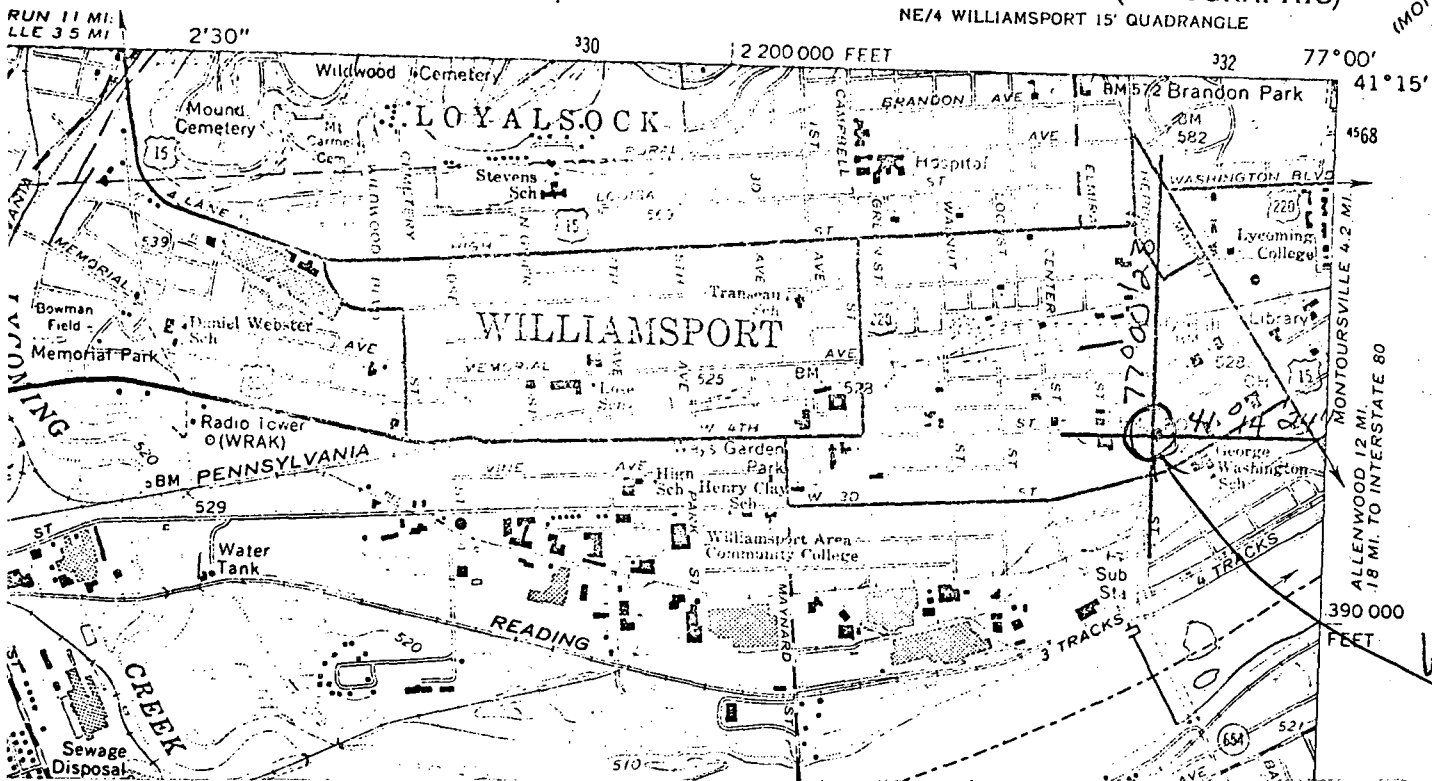
Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Plankenhorn Stationery Co.
 Williamsport, Pa. 17701

WILLIAMSPORT QUADRANGLE
 PENNSYLVANIA-LYCOMING CO.
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
 NE/4 WILLIAMSPORT 15' QUADRANGLE

5666 IV SW
 MONTICOURVILLE NORTH



Form 10-301
 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

STATE	
Pennsylvania	
COUNTY	
Lycoming	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: <u>Post Office</u>			
AND/OR HISTORIC: <u>Federal Building</u>			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
<u>West Fourth Street between Government Place and West St.</u>			
CITY OR TOWN:			
<u>Williamsport</u>			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
<u>Pennsylvania</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>Lycoming</u>	<u>08</u>
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
<u>U.S. G. S. quadrangle, 7.5 minute series, Williamsport</u>			
SCALE: <u>1:24000</u>			
DATE: <u>1965</u>			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

