NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 01/2009) OMB No. 1024-0018

Georgia DNR Office of Historic Preservation Division
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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

Historic name United States Post Office and Court House

Other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 115 E. Hancock Street ☐ not for publication

city of town Athens ☐ vicinity

State Georgia code GA county Clarke code 059 zip code 30601

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 forth 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

___ **national** ___ **statewide** ✓ **local**

Signature of certifying official — Date 7/22/14

Federal Preservation Officer — U.S. General Services Administration

Title — State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official — Date 6 JUNE 2014

DIRECTOR, HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

Title — State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

✓ entered in the National Register — Edson H. Beall — 9.10.14

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:)

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

	private
	public - Local
	public - State
X	public - Federal
	private

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
0	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

1: United States Post Office and Court House (contributing resource to Downtown Athens Historic District)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: Post Office
GOVERNMENT: Courthouse

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: Post Office
GOVERNMENT: Courthouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

MODERN MOVEMENT
OTHER: SIMPLIFIED CLASSICAL

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: Concrete
walls: Stone/Marble
roof: Asphalt/Synthetics
other:

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The United States Post Office and Court House in Athens, Georgia, is an excellent example of the Simplified Classical style of architecture (or Stripped Classical) that also incorporates regional architectural influences. Completed in 1942, the building was originally constructed as a post office and courthouse and continues to be used for these purposes. Like other federal buildings constructed during the Great Depression, New Deal era, and World War II years, the building does not have elaborate architectural details commonly employed on earlier federal buildings. Instead, the building displays a streamlined sensibility that was appropriate for the country's mindset of efficiency and accompanying government budgetary concerns. However, unlike many federal buildings constructed in the 1930s and 40s, the post office and courthouse building displays a distinctive regional appeal. The marble-clad building with columns responds to the design tenets used on numerous Greek Revival and classically inspired buildings in Athens, Georgia. This unique design component, not regularly found on 1940s Simplified Classical federal buildings, is most noticeable in the two-story portico supported by columns. The second purpose-built federal building in Athens, it remains a sign of the federal presence within the town and continues to serve its original functions. The United States Post Office and Court House was listed previously in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource to the Downtown Athens Historic District, which was listed in the National Register on August 10, 1978, with amendments listed on May 31, 1984, and August 18, 2006.

Narrative Description

See Continuation Sheets 7.1 through 7.6.

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 owed by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] B removed from its original location.
- [ ] C a birthplace or grave.
- [ ] D a cemetery.
- [ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [ ] F a commemorative property.
- [ ] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Politics/Government

Architecture

Period of Significance

1942

Significant Dates

1942

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Louis A. Simon, Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance spans is 1942, the date of the building's completion.

Criteria Consideratons (explanation, if necessary)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of signficance and applicable criteria)

The United States Post Office and Court House in Athens, Georgia, is significant under Criterion A. The building directly conveys the federal presence in Athens, which was particularly notable during the years encompassing World War II, when the building was constructed. The building is also significant under Criterion C as an excellent example of a World War II-era federal building that displays the elements of Simplified Classical architecture along with regional southern architectural influences, most notably prominent white columns supporting a portico. Designed by Louis A. Simon, Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury, who was noted for blending Simplified Classical elements with regional influences, it is particularly successful in displaying Simon's design agenda. The building is currently considered a contributing resource within the Downtown Athens National Register of Historic Places Historic District (listed in 1978 with amendments in 1984 and 2006). It is also a contributing resource to the locally designated Downtown Athens Local Historic District (designated 2006). The period of significance spans is 1942, the date of its completion.

Narrative Statement of Significance (provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance)

Politics/Government

The United States Post Office and Court House is associated with the federal presence in Athens, and the growing town's need for expanded federal services in the years just prior to World War II. It is an interesting example of a building completed as part of the New Deal under the Public Works Administration (PWA), and one of apparently few buildings that were constructed as exceptions to the federal government's mandate to cease domestic building that was not directly related to the nation's war effort.

Architecture

The United States Post Office and Court House in Athens, Georgia, is an excellent example of a Simplified Classical style federal building that also displays Southern regional architectural influences. Its architect, Supervising Architect Louis A. Simon, was noted for blending Simplified Classical elements with regional architectural appeal. The Athens building is a particularly successful example of Simon's skill and intent. The prominent portico supported by columns is a direct reference to Athens' classically inspired buildings and as a result, the federal building blends nicely into the town's greater setting. During the Great Depression, New Deal, and World War II eras, federal architecture was increasingly devoid of ornamental details that were either deemed ostentatious or expensive as the nation focused on recovery and then the war effort. Therefore, the United States Post Office and Court House in Athens is an interesting example of a federal building that retains some degree of stylistic appeal and ornamentation during an era when these were increasingly rare. It is also an interesting interpretation of classicism in Athens, where more ornate buildings are typical.

The United States Post Office and Court House in Athens retains a very high level of integrity. The majority of work to the building, particularly to character-defining spaces, has been focused on preservation and restoration. The federal building remains in its original location in downtown Athens surrounded by numerous historic buildings, and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The building itself retains its original form, building materials and finishes, and displays craftsmanship of the 1940s and therefore, retains its integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Collectively, these other aspects of integrity, coupled with the building's continued use as a post office and courthouse, contribute to the overall integrity of feeling and association.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

See Continuation Sheets 8.1 through 8.17.

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
_X_previously listed in the National Register (contributing resource to Downtown Athens Historic District)
____previously determined eligible by the National Register
____designated a National Historic Landmark
____recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
____recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

____State Historic Preservation Office
____Other State agency
____Federal agency
____Local government
_X_University
____Other

Name of repository: **University of Georgia: Athens; See Continuation sheets 9.1 and 9.2.**

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0 acres (previously listed as contributing resource to Downtown Athens Historic District)
(do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	280326.39	3760255.76	3			
2				4			

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

The National Register of Historic Places boundary for the United States Post Office and Court House in Athens, Georgia, consists of the approximate western half of the block bounded by E. Hancock, N. Lumpkin, E. Dougherty, and College Avenue.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The National Register of Historic Places boundary consists of the original .09 acre parcel of land designated for the construction of the United States Post Office and Court House in Athens, Georgia. The building was completed in 1942 and has occupied this parcel of land since that time. The boundary includes the building, and all landscape and hardscape features associated with the historic property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Stephanie Foell/Senior Supervising Architectural and Landscape Historian [Parsons Brinckerhoff]

organization A.D. Marble & Company, prepared for the U.S. General Services Administration

date September 2010, Rev. June 2014

street & number 3913 Hartzdale Drive, Suite 1302

telephone 717.731.9588

city or town Camp Hill

state PA

Zip 17011

e-mail foell@pbworld.com; bfrederick@admarble.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive black and white photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

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 listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

The United States Post Office and Court House in Athens, Georgia, is located at 115 E. Hancock Street in downtown Athens in Clarke County, Georgia. It is situated in the northwest area of the downtown grid, occupying the western half of the block bounded by E. Hancock Street, N. Lumpkin Street, E. Dougherty Street, and College Avenue. The building shares the block with the First Presbyterian Church, an imposing Greek Revival building, which is located on the eastern half of the block. The post office and courthouse building is located within the Downtown Athens Historic District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places on August 10, 1978 with amendments listed on May 31, 1984 and August 18, 2006.

The post office and courthouse has a nearly square/modified cruciform footprint and a boxlike form with a flat roof. Its facade faces south toward E. Hancock Street. A small rectangular extension is located on the rear elevation, which faces E. Dougherty Street. The building is two stories tall, with a partial third story surmounted by a penthouse containing HVAC equiptment. The building was designed to be fireproof and was built of concrete, brick, steel, and marble, with the exception of interior woodwork and flooring materials. The building, which is clad in white Georgia Cherokee marble panels, is set back from E. Hancock Street and is reached by two walkways that each lead to the two main entrances situated in the facade. Exterior wall surfaces are polished marble, while the marble covering the porch floors and exterior stairs is sand rubbed.

The building is primarily lit by twelve-over-twelve, double-hung, wood-sash windows in the first story and smaller, four-over-eight light, double-hung, wood-sash windows in the second story, except where noted. The partial third story is lit by eight-over-eight light, double-hung, wood-sash windows.

The facade is dominated by ten monumental, twenty-one-ton, square section columns that support a two-story, full-width portico. The floor of the portico is covered with marble panels. The underside of the portico is decorated with recessed concentric squares that contain inset lighting. The columns do not have bases, but are topped with simple molded capitals. The columns support a simple, unadorned frieze that contains the incised words UNITED STATES POST OFFICE AND COURT HOUSE. A box cornice tops the frieze. The covered portico is elevated slightly from ground level and is reached by two separate small flights of marble stairs with thin curved iron railings, located at the eastern and western ends of the facade. Integral box planters, which contain evergreen shrubs, are located between the flights of stairs. Two small evergreen trees are set into the box planters flanking these stairs that lead to the main entries.

The building's main entrances are symmetrically located in the facade's eastern and western ends. Each entry consists of a set of single-light, wood, double-leaf doors with concentric square patterns on the lower, wood areas. Simple metal handles are present on the doors. Large square transoms, protected by geometric Greek key-patterned metal grilles, surmount each entry and admit light into the postal lobby. On the exterior, a projecting monolithic marble surround with incised Greek key patterns encompasses each door and is topped with a floral motif band. The band is surmounted by a molded cornice that is topped with an ornate double-anthemion motif, which includes a smaller carving topped by a more prominent anthemion. Geometric scrollwork also contributes to the classically inspired design elements on this building and decorates the span of the doorway.

Five tall windows are situated in the first story of the facade; three are located between the two entrances, and one window occupies the easternmost and westernmost bays. The seven window openings in the second story are evenly spaced between the columns. Six evenly spaced window openings comprise the bays in the third story.

The building's west elevation faces N. Lumpkin Street. A low iron fence with a Greek key pattern protects a basement-level window well area. A secondary staircase, flanked by a simple iron railing, leads from N. Lumpkin Street to the raised portico. The first story consists of seven evenly spaced windows. The second-story windows are aligned directly above the first-story windows. Four windows are unevenly spaced in the third story.

The building's cornerstone is located on this elevation on the southern end of the exterior wall. It reads:

ROBERT H JACKSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

FRANK C WALKER
POSTMASTER GENERAL

JOHN M CARMODY
FEDERAL WORKS ADMINISTRATOR

W ENGLEBERT REYNOLDS
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

LOUIS A SIMON
SUPERVISING ARCHITECT

NEIL A MELICK
SUPERVISING ENGINEER

1941

The rear (north) elevation projects slightly and features a centrally located one-story loading dock that consists of a slightly raised platform featuring small square, marble-clad columns. A flat-roofed metal canopy covers the loading area. Double and single metal doors with glazed panes are located in the buff brick-clad recessed wall behind the loading dock columns. These doors connect to the interior postal workroom. Like other elevations, the rear contains a variety of window openings; their positions are consistent with those found elsewhere on the building. Some of the larger window openings are partially filled with louvered vents. The rear extension contains two metal single doors featuring twelve small square lights in the east and west elevations. Each door is reached by a small flight of metal stairs lined with a metal pipe railing.

The east elevation contains a set of double doors at the basement level. First-story windows align with the second-story windows. The five third story window openings are evenly spaced. A low ramp with simple metal railings leading from the front sidewalk to the east side of the portico facilitates accessible entry to the building.

The flat roof contains an enclosed metal ladder used to access the penthouse and roof. A square, marble-clad interior chimney extends from the rear of the roof.

Exterior Landscape Features

The post office and courthouse is lushly landscaped. A mature magnolia tree sits in front of the building, obscuring much of the view of the building's facade from E. Hancock Street. Other evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs are located on the grassy expanse that extends from the building to E. Hancock Street. Historic images show that these trees were planted shortly after construction was completed. A modest flagpole is also present in front of the building to the parcel's western side. The greater setting of the building is a small downtown area with a mix of nineteenth-, twentieth-, and twenty-first-century buildings. Most can be classified as low-rise buildings and are architecturally significant, contributing to federal and local historic districts.

Interior

Public access to the interior is primarily gained through the two sets of doors on the facade. The first-floor postal lobby is the primary interior public space. The second-floor courtroom, also a significant interior space, is not open to the public.

First Floor

The interior of the post office and courthouse building retains many original materials and finishes.[1] On the first floor, the original postal lobby occupies the southern half of the building and is one of Athens' most notable interior public spaces. Postal service windows are located on the northern side of the lobby and a postal box room is located in the eastern area. The postal workroom occupies the first floor's northern area. The western end of the lobby contains a security checkpoint for those accessing the second-floor courtroom.

The lobby features original floors with pale terrazzo inset into a dark terrazzo border. Marble panels clad the walls at various heights throughout the lobby. Remaining wall surfaces are plaster. The marble walls are decorated with incised Greek key pattern bands beneath window openings and windows are encompassed by marble surrounds. A series of inset square, geometric grille openings line the top of the walls above the postal service windows, while the ceilings in the postal box room have these grilles. An intertwined geometric allusion to the Greek key pattern in relief encircles the ceiling of the postal lobby, but is not present in the postal box room, which is located in the lobby's eastern portion and contains mailboxes. The original bronze

1 Federal Works Agency. U.S. Post Office and Courthouse, Athens, Georgia, Architectural Plans, 1938. Here and elsewhere, confirmations of original materials and building features were made using these architectural drawings.

boxes are set into the marble walls. Postal service windows punctuate the marble wall that divides the northern and southern halves of the building.

Original cast-iron postal tables are located throughout the lobby. Those against the south or exterior wall have claw feet with legs that support griffin heads and Greek key patterns. Glass tops the tables. Those in the center of the lobby are less ornate, but still feature the Greek key pattern. One built-in table on the southern wall has a marble support and also features the Greek key pattern as a decorative element. Lighting is a mix of pendant lights with hemispherical globes and modern, square fluorescent lighting.

The northern portion of the first floor contains the postal workroom. Unlike the lobby, this area is devoid of decorative elements. Vinyl flooring and plaster walls and ceilings complete the space. An original wood door leading to the original lookout gallery is present.

The lobby is subdivided by a tall glass security partition that separates postal patrons from those who are accessing the second-floor courtroom. Modern security and screening equipment are present. Three original painted metal directory boxes are located in this partitioned area on an interior wall. They are surmounted by the words, BULLETIN, DIRECTORY, and CIVIL SERVICE, respectively. Beyond the security checkpoint, a marble staircase with a decorative metal railing leads to the second level. An elevator is also located here. This small elevator contains no character-defining ornamentation. This modest building does not have an elevator lobby.

Basement

The basement is accessed by the stairs and elevator on the western side of the building. Although the stairs are finished in marble on other levels, the stairs descending to the basement are concrete with glazed tile and plaster walls. The basement is an unfinished space with utilitarian functions only. It houses some of the building's mechanical systems as well as storage and maintenance space. Doors in this area are metal. Concrete floors and concrete masonry unit (CMU) and glazed tile walls are present.

Second Floor

The second floor is dominated by the district courtroom, a unique space within Athens. The courtroom occupies the second floor's central core with corridors and/or offices surrounding the courtroom.

The second floor is reached by an original elevator or a marble staircase with a decorative metal balustrade. Both are on the building's western side. Second-floor corridors are finished with terrazzo floors laid with pale panels trimmed with darker strips. Walls are plaster with a marble baseboard.

The courtroom lobby is finished with terrazzo flooring and walnut wood panel wainscoting topped with molding. Decorative fluted pilasters flank the space. Walls above the wainscoting are covered with wallpaper. Double wood doors with molding lead to the courtroom. The Great Seals of United States flank the entrance. The ceiling is dropped acoustical tile with recessed fluorescent lighting and wood crown molding.

The law library was remodeled circa 1995. Faux-grain painting covers the wood doors and bookshelves. Carpet covers the floor. Rectangular lights are set into the ceiling. Wood panel doors are surmounted by anthemion motifs and the Greek key pattern is found on radiator covers. Crown molding encompasses the plaster ceiling.

Like the first-floor public lobby, the courtroom is a significant and highly ornamented interior space. It is two stories in height. The set of double-leaf doors that provide access from the courtroom lobby through the northern wall of the courtroom are covered with red leather and have brass handplates and kickplates. The doors are surrounded by a massive entablature supported by rounded pilasters. The cornice features a dentil course. Walls are covered with paneled walnut wood wainscoting on the lower half. Wood grilles punctuate the wainscoting. Fabric-covered panels are above. The focal point of the room is the centrally located, original, square light fixture that is set into the ceiling. The fixture occupies nearly the entire ceiling of the courtroom. It is encompassed by a metal frame with forty-eight stars, one for each state in the union at the time the building was constructed. An illuminated recessed area surrounds the light fixture. The portion of the ceiling that frames the lighting features the ubiquitous Greek key motif interspersed with motifs that allude to justice, agriculture, and commerce. The gallery consists of wood benches, and wood tables are present for the prosecution and defense. A walnut wood partition defines the jury box, which is filled with leather-covered chairs. The judge's bench is wood and is flanked by a witness box on each side. Behind the bench, on the courtroom's southern wall, a full-height entablature decorated with laurel wreath motifs is supported by squared pilasters. Like the door surround, a dentil course is present. The recessed area behind the entablature contains a door to the judge's chambers and a Great Seal of the United States.

Located in the northern area of the second floor, the judge's chambers are finished with carpet and wallpaper. Similarly, the jury deliberation room contains recently installed wallpaper and a dropped acoustical tile ceiling. A half-glazed door leads to the women's washroom.

A small detention area with a metal holding cell is located on the northern half of the second floor. Washrooms on this floor contain select original materials, such as marble and wood.

Third Floor

The third floor is accessed by the previously mentioned elevator and stairs. A small corridor leads to offices on this floor. Office spaces, currently vacant, occupy the southern portion of the third floor, while the second-floor courtroom, which is two stories in height occupies the remaining space on the third level. The offices are very modest with only basic finishes. Plaster walls and ceilings and carpeted floors are ubiquitous.

Alterations

The United States Post Office and Court House retains a very high degree of architectural integrity on both its exterior and interior. Original materials, features, and finishes remain throughout. A recent window restoration project painstakingly preserved the original windows. Similarly, the second floor courtroom was recently restored. Changes are limited to the reconfiguration of a small portion of the first floor lobby to accommodate

the security station and related equipment. The modest law library room was also renovated and new bookshelves were installed. Other secondary spaces, such as the jury deliberation room, feature dropped acoustical-tile ceilings and new wall coverings. Carpet covers some original flooring, primarily in secondary spaces.

Athens' Architectural History

The University of Georgia was established in 1785 as a land-grant college in the area that would become Athens and remains, over two-hundred years later, the primary focal point within the community. Athens, initially a small town, sprang up around the university and was founded officially in 1806. As an antebellum town that avoided mass destruction during the Civil War, Athens, known as the Classic City, boasts a number of antebellum Greek Revival buildings. Notable Greek Revival buildings include residences that line Milledge Avenue and the University of Georgia Chapel on North Campus. This style influenced the later classical revival interpretations, such as Classical and Colonial Revival buildings that dominated early twentieth-century architecture in the area. Athens contains many classically inspired buildings that feature prominent columns in their designs, a trend that continues to the present day.[2]

Federal Buildings in Athens

The current United States Post Office and Court House is not the first federal building in Athens. Although the actual date of its establishment is unknown, Athens' first post office was located at 220 E. Clayton Street. Records indicate that it was not a purpose-built federal building, but likely a shop with a postal counter. Later, the post office and federal courthouse was located at 300 College Avenue, on the block between E. Hancock and E. Washington streets, in a three-story brick building executed in the Second Renaissance Revival style. Supervising Architect of the Treasury James Knox Taylor designed the building, which was constructed in 1905, and which continued to house federal agency offices after the new post office and courthouse building opened in 1942. Since the 1970s, when the agencies relocated to the Robert G. Stevens Federal Building, the building has housed the main offices of First American Bank and Trust.[3]

Athen's third federal building, the Robert G. Stevens Federal Building, was constructed in Athens on E. Hancock Street in 1974. Named for a retired Georgia Tenth District Congressman, the building houses local branches of federal agency offices.

Postal receipts in Athens, Georgia, indicated the need for expanded facilities through the years. In 1905, receipts totaled $30,000. By 1930, this annual amount had grown to $93,000. By 1950, the amount had skyrocketed to $254,000, followed by receipts of $598,000 in 1960.[4] The United States Post Office and Court House in Athens was completed under the auspices of the Public Works Administration (PWA) program. Drawings for the building were completed in 1938, with construction commencing in 1941.[5] The new post office and courthouse building in Athens cost $451,000, which included acquiring the property, building construction, and furniture.[6]

2 Frances Taliaferro Thomas. *A Portrait of Historic Athens and Clarke County*. (Athens, Georgia: The University of Georgia Press, 1992), 37-40.
3 Thomas, 165.
4 Jack Martin. "A Little Bit About This and That." Athens *Banner-Herald*, May 13, 1965.
5 "New Post Office To Be Open To Public on Thursday, Friday." Athens *Banner-Herald*, September 2, 1942.
6 "Inspection Shows Athens Post Office One of Finest in U.S." Athens *Banner-Herald*, September 6, 1942.

Prior Occupation of the Site

The parcel of land that contains the present Athens post office and courthouse previously contained the Scudder House, a three-story brick residence that was described as having columns and a porch, with a landscape that included magnolia trees and a spacious walk. The residence was later occupied by a series of fraternities, including Phi Delta Theta and Delta Tau Delta.[7] The Scudder House was demolished to accommodate the new post office. Construction of the United States Post Office and Court House in Athens commenced in 1941.

Athens Post Office Opening

Athens' new post office opened to the public for viewing on September 3, 1942. On that day, the building was opened to "business and professional men" who conducted an inspection tour of the new facility. Interestingly, the following day, women were allowed to inspect the building. However, children were not permitted in the building either day, but would be allowed to view it as part of their schoolwork. Initially, furniture from the old post office was moved to the new building, with the plan that new furniture would be ordered at a later time. On Saturday, September 5, the post office closed its doors at its prior location on College Avenue and reopened on Monday, September 7, at the new location on E. Hancock Street.[8]

In many small towns and big cities throughout the country, a new federal building's opening was a grand event accompanied by fanfare and local press coverage. However, the Athens post office and courthouse is a bit unusual in this respect. Rather than dominating the newspapers in the days leading up to and including the opening, the new federal building received very little coverage. Two other news stories eclipsed the federal building fanfare. At the same time the post office and courthouse was preparing to open, repercussions of the infamous Talmadge Scandal/Cocking Affair were occurring. Georgia Governor Eugene Talmadge had terminated professors, administrators, and members of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, accusing them of wanting to integrate the university. This generated so much adverse publicity throughout the nation, ultimately leading the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to withdraw accreditation from all of Georgia's state-supported colleges for whites. Secondly, critical developments in the World War II European Theater were occurring simultaneously. These stories, which had statewide and international significance, dominated the Athens newspapers, overshadowing the locally important event of the new federal building's opening.[9] Although newspaper reports indicated that a more formal grand opening or dedication ceremony would occur later in the fall, a careful review of Athens newspapers did not indicate that this event occurred.

Historical Overview: U.S. District Courts in the United States

7 William Tate. *Strolls Around Athens* (Athens, Georgia: The Observer Press, 1975), 21.
8 "New Post Office To Be Open To Public on Thursday, Friday." Athens *Banner-Herald*, September 2, 1942.
9 Athens *Banner-Herald*, September 1-8, 1942; Although newspaper reports indicated that a more formal grand opening or dedication ceremony would occur later in the fall, a careful review of Athens newspapers did not indicate that this event occurred.

Pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution, which granted Congress the power to "constitute Tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court" and to Article III, Section 1, which vested judicial power in the Supreme Court "and such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish," the U.S. district courts were established as the basic organizational units of the federal court system by the Judiciary Act of 1789. Thirteen judicial districts were originally created, one for each of the eleven states that had then ratified the Constitution and one each for Maine and Kentucky, then still parts of Massachusetts and Virginia respectively. Within each district, the court served as the federal trial court for admiralty and maritime cases and heard some civil and criminal cases; jurisdiction was limited to those cases arising within the district. The President appointed district judges who were required to reside within their districts, and Congress empowered them to appoint their own administrative clerks. Congress also authorized the President to appoint to each district a marshal and a federal prosecutor, the latter then known as a district attorney. During the early years of the district courts, caseloads were largely taken up with admiralty suits, and some districts heard few cases.[10]

Additional individual districts and courts were established by specific legislation. At least one district court was established for each state, and, as early as the 1790s, Congress began creating separate districts within states. Early judges commonly served more than one district within a state. Judges served singly within districts, with one unusual exception of New York from 1812-1814, until 1903, when Congress again appointed a second judgeship to a district in New York and the practice became more common. Territorial courts were also established for organized territories. Territorial courts were structured and had the same jurisdiction as district courts, thus allowing a simple transition when territorial courts were superseded by district courts as territories attained statehood.[11]

U.S. circuit courts were also established in 1789. They shared jurisdiction with district courts but also had exclusive jurisdiction in some circumstances and appellate jurisdiction over district courts. District judges also served on the circuit courts that sat in their districts. During the nineteenth century, judges often devoted more time to their busier circuit court roles rather than to their district court responsibilities. In the original districts of Maine and Kentucky, as well as in the many new districts established as states entered the union in the nineteenth century, district courts assumed the jurisdiction of the circuit courts until the new district were incorporated into a judicial circuit. Appeals from these districts were heard by the Supreme Court or by circuit courts within another district in the same state. By 1889, however, Congress provided a circuit for each district and thus ended the expanded jurisdiction of some districts. Congress also gradually expanded the jurisdiction of the district courts during the nineteenth century. Appellate jurisdiction was transferred from circuit courts to the newly established U.S. circuit courts of appeal in 1891; ultimately, circuit courts themselves were abolished in 1911 and their jurisdiction, records, and cases transferred to the appropriate district courts. District courts were now the sole trial courts of the federal judicial system.[12]

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10 Federal Judicial Center website, "The U.S. District Courts and the Federal Judiciary," available from http://www.fjc.gov/public/home.nsf/hisc (accessed 7 July 2008).
11 Ibid.
12 Ibid.

The U.S. district courts remain the trial courts of the federal judiciary. Within the framework established by Congress and the Constitution, district courts have jurisdiction over most federal criminal and civil cases. There are currently ninety-four judicial districts, with at least one in each state or territory and a bankruptcy court associated with each, and 677 district judgeships.[13]

The Office of the Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury Department and the Public Works Administration (PWA)

The Office of the Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury Department (Supervising Architect) was responsible for the construction of federal buildings throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. From 1895 to 1933, the office reported to the U.S. Treasury Department. In the 1920s, the Office of the Supervising Architect was divided into a Technical Branch and an Administrative Branch. The Technical Branch included a division responsible for project costs and accounting; a drafting division, including a superintendent who greatly influenced design practices; a structural division; a mechanical engineering division; and a repairs division.

In 1933, the U.S. Treasury Department was reorganized and the Office of the Supervising Architect was shifted to the Procurement Branch of the Division of Public Works of the Treasury. In July 1939, the public buildings program was removed from the U.S. Treasury Department and merged into the Federal Works Agency, Public Buildings Administration. In 1949, Congress established the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), and the new agency assumed responsibility for public buildings.[14]

World War I and the Public Buildings Act of 1926

World War I brought the work of the Supervising Architect's Office to a halt due to the financial, industrial, and transportation resources strain that it placed on the country. The only buildings constructed during this period were those required for wartime use and those already under construction. New building construction commenced by 1922; however, the postponement of many projects authorized by the Public Buildings Act of 1913 and a backlog of new building requests necessitated the development of a major public building program. This resulted in the passage of a new Public Buildings Act on May 25, 1926.[15]

The Public Buildings Act of 1926 contained three principal provisions. First, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster General were directed to conduct a nationwide survey to determine the need for postal facilities with the intent that new facilities would be based upon need rather than political influence. Secondly, the supervising architect's office was permitted to consult private architects in "special cases." The staff of the supervising architect had previously handled all projects, since James Knox Taylor decided in 1904 to effectively bar private architects from federal construction projects. Finally, the act provided for the

13 U.S. Courts website, "United States District Courts," available from http://www.uscourts.gov/ districtcourts.html (accessed 3 June 2014).
14 Lois A. Craig, et al., *The Federal Presence* (Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press, 1978), 327.
15 Antoinette Lee, *Architects to the Nation* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000), 231-232, 239.

continuation of building-design standardization.[16] The building-needs survey of 1926 resulted in the doubling the $100 million previously allocated through the act of 1926; the construction of at least two new buildings per state; and no buildings constructed in towns where postal receipts were less than $10,000.[17]

President Herbert Hoover worked with Congress to increase allocations for the building program in both 1930 and 1931 as the nation suffered the impacts of the Great Depression. However, the Administration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt substantially expanded the program.[18]

The Great Depression and the Reorganization of the U.S. Treasury Department

The building industry began to suffer from the stock market crash of 1929 and the onset of the Great Depression in the early 1930s. Using provisions of the Public Buildings Act of 1926, officials promoted employment within the building trades. Congress passed an amendment to the 1926 act, known as the Keyes-Elliott Bill, in 1930 to provide "increased authority to the secretary of the treasury to enter into contracts with private architects for full professional services."

Despite this directive, the Office of the Supervising Architect under the direction of Acting Supervising Architect James Wetmore only considered hiring private architects for large projects due to concerns related to efficiency. The American Institute of Architects (AIA) objected to the Treasury Department's implementation of the amendment to the 1926 act and petitioned for the reorganization of the Supervising Architect's Office. The AIA hoped that the office would serve only a supervisory function, allowing wider employment of private architects and resulting in greater diversity, vitality, and regional appropriateness in federal architecture.

The President's Emergency Committee for Employment and members of Congress echoed the AIA's concerns, particularly regarding the need to employ local private architects. H.R. 6197, known as the Green Bill, was introduced in Congress in 1932 in an attempt to place all federal building design in the hands of private architects; however, the legislation did not pass. The AIA continued its campaign following the election of Franklin D. Roosevelt and the appointment of new officials to the U.S. Treasury Department, including Treasury Secretary William H. Wooden.[19]

Roosevelt's Executive Order 6166, which reorganized the federal building program and promised unemployment relief, was announced in June 1933. The order resulted in the creation of the Procurement Division within the U.S. Treasury Department, the transfer of the Supervising Architect's Office to the Procurement Division, and the change in name of the Supervising Architect's Office to the Public Works Branch. W.E. Reynolds, Assistant Director of the Procurement Division, was put in charge of five units headed

16 Louis Melius, *The American Postal Service: History of the Postal Service from the Earliest Times* (Washington, D.C: Louis Melius, 1917), 40-41.
17 *Ibid*.
18 Beth Boland, National Register of Historic Places, Bulletin 13, "How to Apply National Register Criteria to Post Offices" (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1984), Section II, 3.
19 Lee, 248-252.

by the supervising engineer, the supervising architect, the office manager, the chairman of the board of award, and the chief of the legal section.[20]

New relief funding programs were initiated to allocate and supplement funding for public works simultaneously with the U.S. Treasury Department reorganization. Harold L. Ickes, the federal emergency administrator of public works, allocated funds to the U.S. Treasury Department for the construction of federal buildings under the provisions of the National Industrial Recovery Act of 1933, including two allotments in August 1933 in the amounts of $6,971,648 and $13,799,550, as well as additional funds for emergency construction projects throughout the country.[21]

Public Works Administration, 1933-1939

Although public works spending as a means to aiding recovery from the Great Depression began under the Hoover Administration, President Roosevelt's New Deal is credited with using the federal building program to achieve relief. These efforts were formalized in 1933, when the Public Works Administration (PWA) was organized to give structure to the recovery effort.

The PWA oversaw the planning and construction of federal and non-federal public works projects, including post office construction. To stimulate the economic recovery, the government rapidly expanded its public works program. This provided work for the unemployed, many of whom were in the building trades. The Bureau of Labor Statistics maintained statistics on employment, wages, cost of materials, and other PWA project data. During the 1930s, the number of public buildings constructed increased dramatically.

Because of the planning already completed under the 1926 legislation, these projects were able to start up quickly. Post office construction increased nearly threefold during this period compared to the previous fifty years; the PWA built 406 post offices in the years from 1933 to 1939. This number represents more than one-eighth of the total 3,174 PWA construction projects built and also includes those substantial additions made to existing post office buildings. Congress authorized a number of New Deal programs that were used to fund the construction of post offices. In addition, funds for post office construction came from the relief program authorized by the Emergency Relief and Construction Act of July 21, 1932; the Emergency Construction Program under the Appropriation Act of June 1934; and the Building Program for the District of Columbia, authorized by the Act of 1926. The U.S. Treasury Department retained responsibility for post office construction funding until 1939, utilizing a number of different programs and authorizations to fund the program.[22]

These post offices were among the most familiar government buildings to the general public. Despite the desire to complete projects rapidly, the PWA also stressed the importance of high quality in order to ensure "public

20 Lee, 253.
21 Lee, 254.
22 Ellis L. Armstrong, *History of Public Works of the United States, 1776-19*45 (Chicago: American Public Works Association, 1976), 327.

works of an enduring character and lasting benefits."[23] The program's goals were to construct buildings as quickly as possible and to employ as many people as possible at efficient costs. The Treasury Department's use of standardized design practice, begun in 1915, meant its projects were well-suited to this high-speed, efficient process. Any drawing that did not have to be produced from scratch promoted faster project development. Avoiding construction problems caused by design changes or incorrect plans also helped. Simplified ornamentation meant less drawing time. While facade variations were allowed, standardized interior plans were well established and frequently utilized. A publication entitled "Instructions to Private Architects Engaged on Public Building Work under the Jurisdiction of the Treasury Department" listed these standards. The most commonly used styles were the Colonial Revival or Simplified Classical, a simplified classical style mixing modern and classical elements. All of the styles can be characterized by symmetrical massing and plain surfaces.[24]

Postal Service in the United States

The establishment of the postal service began as a means to provide communication to the colonies during the Revolutionary War. On July 26, 1775, the Second Continental Congress developed the post office under its first Postmaster General, Benjamin Franklin. The post office was the only agency to remain intact through the Revolutionary War, the period of the Articles of the Confederacy, and the years after the Constitution was adopted. Subsequently, the newly established federal government viewed the post office as the means for conveying knowledge of its laws and proceedings to all parts of the country.[25]

During the postal service's early growth period, the number of post offices expanded from 75 in 1789 to 16,749 in 1849.[26] Throughout the nineteenth century, the postal system served as the principal means of long distance communication. Postal service provided both a physical and intellectual link between great distances as the nation expanded across the continent.[27] By 1820, the number of post offices and miles of post roads approximately quadrupled that of 1800.[28] Local taverns, grocery stores, coffeehouses, and inns, all focal points of community life, housed the first post offices.[29]

The Post Office Department of the Confederate States of America was established on February 21, 1861, by an Act of the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States. On March 6, 1861, President of the Confederate States, Jefferson Davis, appointed John Henninger Reagan, a former U. S. Congressman, as Postmaster General of the Confederate States of America. Throughout its operation, the Confederate postal service was continuously interrupted. Through a combination of pay and personnel cuts, postage rate increases, and the

23 Boland, Section II, 3.
24 Boland, Section II, 4
25 Rita L. Maroney, *History of the U.S. Postal Service: 1775-1982* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1982), 3.
26 Armstrong, 327.
27 Boland, 1.
28 Boland, Section II, 1.
29 Maroney, 1.

streamlining of mail routes, Confederate Postmaster General Reagan eliminated the deficit that existed in the postal service in the South.[30]

The resumption of federal mail service in the southern states took place gradually as the war came to an end. By November 15, 1865, 241 mail routes had been restored in southern states; by November 1, 1866, 3,234 post offices out of 8,902 were returned to federal control in the South. Postmaster General Reagan was arrested at the end of the war but later was pardoned and eventually made it back to Congress, where he became chairman of the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads.[31]

Throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, Congress established or improved postal services and facilities throughout the nation. Efforts to increase the speed and efficiency of mail delivery encouraged the growth of roads, railroads, shipping lines, and eventually airlines. The postal presence, through its sheer number, distribution, and types of services, provided tangible reminders to otherwise isolated communities of the role and ideals of the central government. Consequently, the buildings constructed for use as post offices have conveyed governmental and architectural philosophies throughout the nation.[32]

The postal service built structures for receiving, processing, and distributing mail to provide services for the expanding population during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. For smaller communities, a special counter in a local store served as the post office. In larger villages or towns, a separate post office building was constructed with a public service counter, workroom for mail processing, and a loading dock. Urban post offices handling large volumes of mail required larger buildings with extensive workrooms, offices, employee facilities, loading platforms, and windows or counters to serve the public. Urban post offices often shared space in federal buildings with courts and branch offices of federal agencies. The Supervising Architect oversaw the design and development of these early postal facilities.[33]

Criteria used to determine the placement of postal offices reflected the uses of the facilities and the manner in which they were designed to function. Post offices that included other federal offices or courts were often located near other government buildings in the community. Single-function post offices built prior to the 1930s were often located on or near main transportation corridors and commercial centers and near the railroad station to facilitate movement of mail to and from trains. Facilities constructed during the 1930s and later became more truck and auto-oriented and were located near the downtown, but perhaps a block or two from the town's main street. This made the post office easy to find, but also allowed better access to truck activity.

The modern-day United States Postal Service (USPS) was officially established as an independent federal agency on July 1, 1971, when Congress implemented the Postal Reorganization Act.[34]

30 United States Postal Service Website, "History of the United States Postal Service," available from http://www.usps.com/history/history/his1.htm (accessed 27 November 2007).
31 Ibid.
32 Boland, Section II, 2
33 Maroney, 5.
34 Ibid.

The Murals Program, 1934 to 1943

Although symbolic architectural features, painted motifs, and murals had been utilized previously in federal buildings, the inclusion of murals increased during the implementation of relief programs during the 1930s and early 1940s. Beginning in 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration supported public art with a series of programs designed both to employ artists and artisans, and to improve the character of public buildings within which their work would be placed.[35]

The New Deal Arts Program brought art to the American people by placing the artwork in accessible locations, including federal buildings.[36] Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., reserved one percent of new federal buildings' construction costs for murals, sculpture, or both. However, not all buildings contained artwork; if actual costs for construction exceeded the estimate, the building did not receive art.[37] According to Edward Bruce, the Chief of the Section of Fine Arts in 1940, his department's aim was to "secure the murals and sculpture of distinguished quality appropriate to the embellishment of federal buildings."[38] During this period, as many federal buildings were losing any regional architectural character, an emphasis was placed on including public art that presented local scenes or historical events.

Surprisingly, the United States Post Office and Court House in Athens does not contain a mural. Some confusion surrounds this situation. Renowned artist Andree Ruellan created a mural called *Spring in Georgia* circa 1920 for the Lawrenceville, Georgia, post office. This mural was later moved to the 1974 Robert G. Stevens Federal Building, also on E. Hancock Street in Athens. Many citizens mistakenly believe that this mural was moved from the United States Post Office and Court House in Athens. Additional misinformation has been written in some local sources, which incorrectly state that *Spring in Georgia* currently resides in the United States Post Office and Court House in Athens. While both federal buildings are on E. Hancock Street in downtown Athens, the mural is located at the Robert G. Stevens Federal Building at 355 E. Hancock Street as opposed to the United States Post Office and Court House at 115 E. Hancock Street.

Supervising Architect Louis Simon

The United States Post Office and Court House in Athens was designed under the supervision of Louis A. Simon, Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury. When James Wetmore retired as Acting Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury in 1934, he was succeeded by Simon. Simon had spent decades in the Supervising Architect's Office and, under Wetmore's administration, had overseen all design work. Despite his long tenure with the office, Simon brought a new design philosophy. Simon favored the Italian Renaissance Revival and Colonial Revival styles over Wetmore's more strict classicism, although he continued to use

35 Marlene Park and Gerald E. Markowitz, *Democratic Vistas: Post Offices and Public Art in the New Deal* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1984), 5.
36 Park and Markowitz, 5.
37 McKinzie, 38.
38 Exhibition of Mural Designs for Federal Buildings (Ottawa: The National Gallery of Canada, 1940), 4.G

Classical inspiration in his designs.[39] Simon's designs, particularly those in the Simplified Classical style, were appreciated for their relative "simplicity and restraint" and for their proportionality and functionality, especially when compared to the more exuberant styles promoted by his predecessors. During his tenure as Supervising Architect, Simon also oversaw several projects designed by private "consulting architects." These were larger projects that would not conform to standardization and where the use of private architects was presumed to be more beneficial and economical.[40]

Simon also implemented a new emphasis on regional design. If a given locality for a modest federal building suggested a stylistic approach—for example, Colonial Revival in New England, or Spanish Colonial Revival in the Southwest—then designers took that into account. Important federal buildings in larger cities were to remain monumental and dignified regardless of whether an appropriate regional aesthetic was employed.[41]

Popular Federal Architectural Styles of the 1930s and 1940s

While some buildings from this era were designed prior to the onset of the Great Depression, ostentatious ornamentation often was omitted to reflect the more somber tone of the United States during the depression. Buildings designed during the Great Depression and subsequent New Deal eras were markedly more modest than earlier federal buildings. These structures retained classical proportions and high-quality building materials to maintain the federal presence and convey the strength of the government even during trying times. However, decorative elements that would have been inappropriate and perceived as wasteful were not included on these buildings, resulting in cleaner designs that reflected Modern architectural styles, such as the International Style and Art Moderne. This blending of classicism and Modernism is generally referred to as Simplified Classicim or Stripped Classicism.[42] The style was so named because the basic form and symmetry of Classicism were retained, but much of the ornamentation and motifs were reduced or removed. Simplified Classic buildings were constructed throughout the 1930s and 1940s. Their monumentality continued to convey permanence in the cities and towns, but the lack of architectural ornament represented a change. As in years past, the Federal government never mandated an official public style, but the Simplified Classic style was adopted across the nation. During this time, federal design tenets rather strictly adhered to the Art Deco and Simplified Classical styles.[43]

History of the United States Post Office and Court House

Although it is likely that racial segregration was practiced in the building, given its construction date and location, research did not reveal any specific information concerning segregation with respect to this particular building. The original drawings for the building do not designate separate facilities for the races and no obvious physical evidence of the practice remains in the building today.

39 Lee, 260-261.
40 Lee, 256.
41 Lee, 261.
42 Craig, et al., 296-301.
43 Lee, 209.

Since its construction, the United States Post Office and Court House in Athens has remained in use as it was originally intended. Both the postal and court facilities serve the public. Two new post offices are located in Athens, one in Beechwood and one on Olympic Drive. However, the United States Post Office and Court House contains the only downtown postal facility. No other federal agencies are housed in the building. Instead, agencies are located in the nearby Robert G. Stevens Federal Building. In recent years, Athens has gained national exposure as the town that spawned numerous nationally and internationally recognized musicians and bands, essentially putting the small college town on the map. During the 1980s and early 1990s, the building's lobby was open to the public twenty-four hours each day. According to local musician Lynda Stipe, whose brother Michael fronts the internationally celebrated band R.E.M., some of the most renowned local singers would meet in the postal lobby after business hours to sing because of the excellent acoustics in the space. However, the postal service closed the lobby after business hours in the early 1990s and these impromptu gatherings of musical luminaries were forced to relocate.[44]

The building has undergone routine maintenance since its construction and is in very good condition. All work, most notably recent window restoration, has adhered to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. As a result of these ongoing, careful preservation efforts, the building retains its character-defining features and materials and appears much as it did upon completion in 1942. It remains a local landmark in downtown Athens.

44 Interview with Lynda Stipe by Stephanie Foell, April 9, 2009.

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Name of Property:	United States Post Office and Court House
City or Vicinity:	Athens
County:	Clarke County
State:	GA
Name of Photographer:	S. Foell
Date of Photographs:	August 2008
Location of Original Digital Files:	A.D. Marble & Company 375 E. Elm Street, Suite 200 Conshohocken, PA 19428

Photo # 1 (GA_Clarke County_USPO & Court House_0001)
South and east elevations, view to northwest

Photo # 2 (GA_Clarke County_USPO & Court House_0002)
South elevation, view to northeast

Photo # 3 (GA_Clarke County_USPO & Court House_0003)
South elevation portico, view to west

Photo # 4 (GA_Clarke County_USPO & Court House_0004)
West and south elevations, view to northeast

Photo # 5 (GA_Clarke County_USPO & Court House_0005)
West elevation, view to southeast

Photo # 6 (GA_Clarke County_USPO & Court House_0006)
Postal lobby, view to east

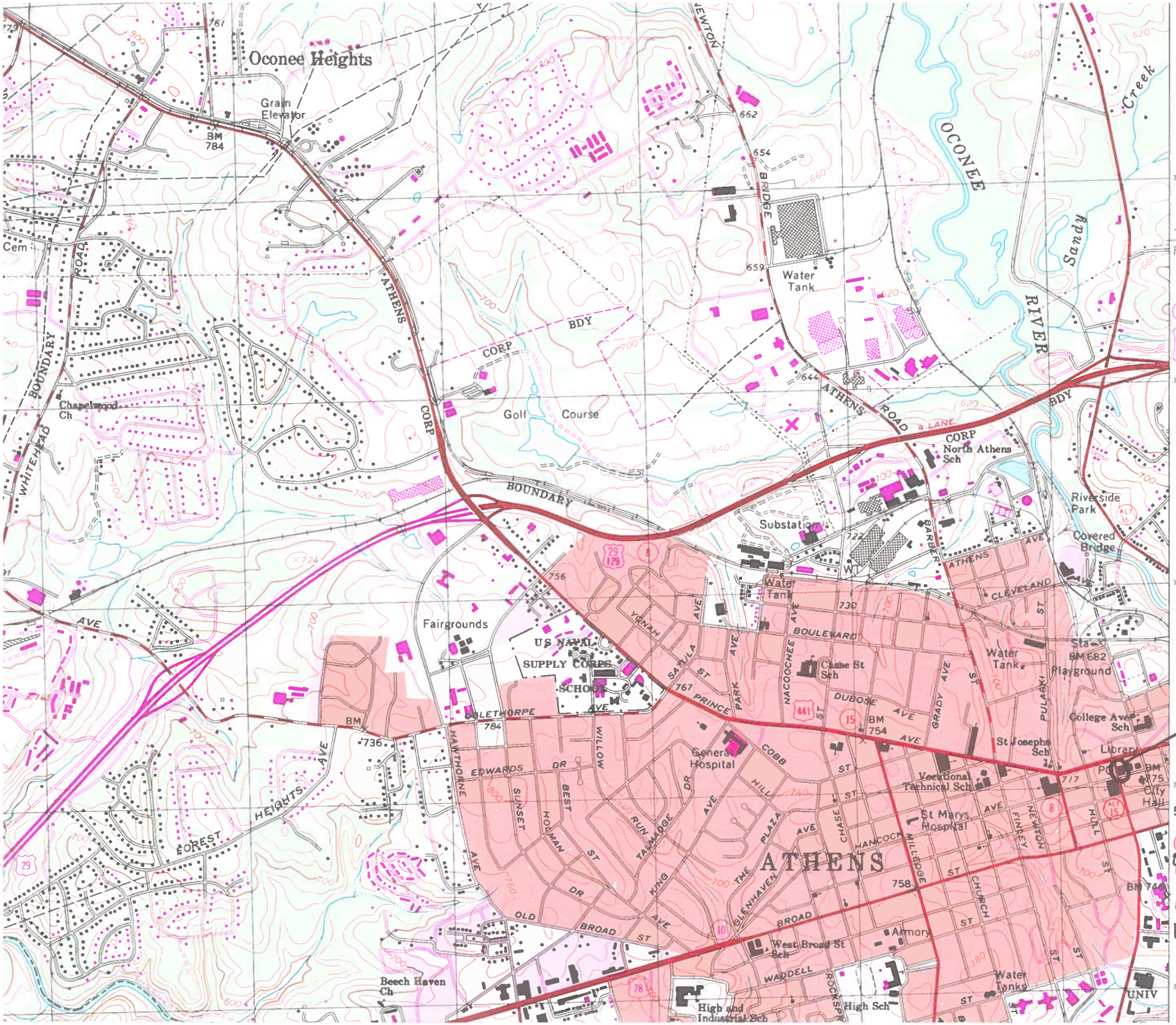
Photo # 7 (GA_Clarke County_USPO & Court House_0007)
Postal lobby, view to southwest

Photo # 8 (GA_Clarke County_USPO & Court House_0008)
Postal lobby, showing boxes, view to northeast

Photo # 9 (GA_Clarke County_USPO & Court House_0009)
Second floor courtroom lobby, view to northeast

Photo # 10 (GA_Clarke County_USPO & Court House_0010)
Second floor courtroom, view to north

Photo # 11 (GA_Clarke County_USPO & Court House_0011)
Second floor law library detail, view to west



U.S. Post Office and Court-house, Athens, Clarke County, Georgia

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UNITED STATES POST OFFICE AND COURT HOUSE

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