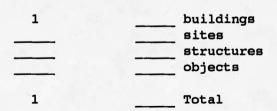
NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 (Rev. 8-86) United States Department of the Interior National Park Service NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM 1. Name of Property Historic Name: Post Office Building, Old Other Name/Site Number: Nacogdoches Public Library 2. Location Street & Number: 206 E. Main Not for Publication: N/A City/Town: Nacogdoches State: TX County: Nacogdoches Zip Code: 75961 Code: 347 3. Classification Ownership of Property: Public-local Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing Noncontributing



Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Nacogdoches Multiple-Property Nomination

4. State/Federal Agency Certification					
As the designated authority under the M of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify a for determination of eligibility meets registering properties in the National meets the procedural and professional a Part 60. In my opinion, the property tional Register CriteriaSee contin	Nation that Regin requis meet	hal H: this _ docume ster of rement ts0	istoric P nominat entation of Histor ts set fo does not	reservat: ionre standard ic Places rth in 30	ion Act nuest for and 5 CFR
Signature of certifying official			Date		
State or Federal agency and bureau					
In my opinion, the propertymeetsd ter criteriaSee continuation sheet		not me	eet the N	ational 1	Regis-
Signature of commenting or other offici	lal		Date		
		-			1 - C.
State or Federal agency and bureau ====================================					
5. National Park Service Certification I, hereby certify that this property is entered in the National Register See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the					
5. National Park Service Certification I, hereby certify that this property is entered in the National Register See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the					
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5. National Park Service Certification I, hereby certify that this property is 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):					
5. National Park Service Certification I, hereby certify that this property is 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): Signature of Keeper 6. Function or Use	3:			Date of	Actic
5. National Park Service Certification I, hereby certify that this property is 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): Signature of Keeper	3:			Date of	Actio

*USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form	Page #3
7. Description	 

Architectural Classification:

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Classical Revival

Other Description:

Materials: foundation Brick; Cast-Stone walls Brick; Cast-Stone roof Unknown other

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) :

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1917

Significant Dates: 1917

Significant Person(s): Not Applicable

Cultural Affiliation: Not Applicable

Architect/Builder: Wetmore, James A.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

\_X\_ See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References	
See Historic Context List of Re	ferences.
Previous documentation on file (NPS)	
<pre>_ preliminary determination of :     been requested.</pre>	Individual listing (36 CFR 67) has
_ previously listed in the Natio	
_ previously determined eligible	
_ designated a National Historic	Landmark
_ recorded by Historic American recorded by Historic American	
_ recorded by Arscoric American	Engineering Record #
Primary Location of Additional Data:	
x State historic preservation of	fice
Other state agency	
_ Federal agency	
Local government University	
Other Specify Repository:	
_ other specify hepository.	
lO. Geographical Data	
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The Old Post Office Buildings is a 1- and 2-story brick institutional building with a modified rectangular plan. Although brick is the predominant building material, cast stone and stucco are also used as contrasting materials. The three found-arched openings on the front are perhaps the building's most distinctive features and along with the modillions and other classically inspired detailing are suggestive of the Classical Revival sty.e The buildings occupies the public square and thus is the focal point of the central business district.

The five-bay front, which faces north onto Main Street, is symmetrically arranged with slightly projecting end bays and a round-arched opening in the three middle bays. The entrance is set within the central bay and includes double doors with transom and sidelights. The three arches have cast stone reliefs in varying patterns. A caststone watertable and brick foundation extend around the base of the front and continue to the rear and side elevations. Other noteworthy features include the simple cornice that caps the first story and the second floor which rises from the rear of the building.

The Old Post Office is in good condition and, despite its conversion into a municipal library, is virtually unaltered.

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

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The Old Post Office Building is nominated to the National Register under Criterion C because it is a rare local example of Classical Revival architecture and it remains virtually unaltered. It occupies the old Principal Square which was set aside when Nacogdoches was founded in 1779. The construction of this building in 1917 closed a chapter in local history as the city began to turn its back on its Spanish heritage. The building also is indicative of community wide development during the early 20th century and is related to Community Planning and Development in Nacogdoches: 1830-1940.

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When Nacogdoches was formally established and streets were laid out, town founder Antonio Gil Ybarbo followed Spanish traditions and set aside two public squares in the central part of town. One, which was near the present intersection of Main and North streets, was called the Religious Square where a Catholic church was built. The other, known as the Principal square, was two blocks to the east on El Camino Real (Main Street). This square soon became Nacogdoches' primary center of activity and eventually attracted merchants and businessmen who erected buildings on property facing onto the square. As the city prospered in the late 19th and early 20th century, property nearby became quite valuable and new buildings were erected; however, the square itself remained undeveloped. Its importance to the community stemmed from its role as the symbolic heart o the city and its use as a center of social gathering. Moreover, its survival through this era of intense development provided a tangible link to

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Nacogdoches' early Spanish heritage.

By the 1910s, land in the city's downtown was densely developed and when efforts were made to erect a federal post office building, the Principal Square was selected as the building site because of its central location. James E. Wetmore acted as the supervising architect for the project. The Post Office used the building until 1964. The Nacogdoches Public Library presently uses the facilities.

As it stands today, the Old Post Office Building is an important local landmark because it occupies the old Principal Square which has been the focal point of Nacogdoches since its establishment in 1779. Many historic buildings still stand nearby, however, few retain their integrity to such a noteworthy degree. Furthermore, the old Post Office is one of the few local examples of a building with Classical Revival detailing.

