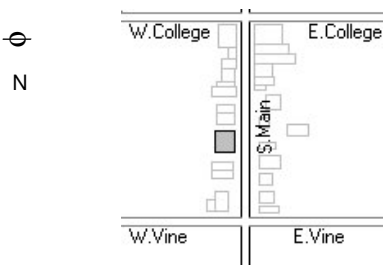




OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

Ohio Historic Preservation Office
567 E. Hudson St. Columbus, Ohio 43211
614/297-2470



1. No.		2. County LOR		4. Present Name(s) Oberlin Post Office		<input type="checkbox"/> Coded
3. Location of Negatives O.H.I.O. Resource Roll # Exp. # Facing Front 3 30A NW Rear 3 28A SE				5. Historic or Other Name(s) Oberlin Post Office		
6. Specific Address or Location 68 South Main				17. Date(s) or Period 1934		17b. Alteration Date(s)
6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number 09-00-085-112-076				18. Style or Design Neo-Classical Revival		High Style <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elements <input type="checkbox"/>
7. City or Village Oberlin				19. Architect or Engineer Alfred Hahn		30. Foundation Material Stone
8. Site Plan with North Arrow 				18a. Style of Addition or Element(s)		31. Wall Construction Metal/Steel Frame
				19a. Design Sources		32. Roof: Type Flat Pitch Flat Material Unknown
9. U.T.M. Reference Quadrangle Name Zone Easting Northing <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"><div><input type="text"/></div><div><input type="text"/></div><div><input type="text"/></div><div><input type="text"/></div><div><input type="text"/></div><div><input type="text"/></div><div><input type="text"/></div><div><input type="text"/></div><div><input type="text"/></div><div><input type="text"/></div></div>				20. Contractor or Builder		33. No. Bays Front 7 Side 3
10. <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Object				21. Building Type or Plan Other Building		34. Exterior Wall Material(s) Brick, Common/American Bond
11. On National Register ? No				22. Original Use, if apparent Post Office		35. Plan Shape Rectangular
12. N.R. Potential ? Yes				23. Present Use Post Office		36. Changes (Explain in #42) Altered, Minimal
13. Part of Estb Hist Dist? No				24. Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private		37. Window Type(s) Other
14. Dist. Potential ? Yes				25. Owner's Name & Address, if known United States of America Postal Service c/o Pat Verlotti, Postmaster, 68 S, Main Oberlin OH 44074		38. Bldg. Dims. 86 ft. X 80 ft.
15. Name of Established District (N.R. or Local)				26. Property Acreage 0.947		39. Endangered? No Explain:
16. Thematic Association(s) Political Welfare: Governmental admin: Post office				27. Other Surveys in Which Included Dobson-Brown (92); Hayes (96)		40. Chimney Placement No Chimney Observed
42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features This one-story, Neo-Classical building, constructed of yellow brick and stone, has side wings with lower rooflines and a high, stone foundation. A decorative, triglyph, metope frieze rests above two, fluted Doric columns and stone piers. The columns frame a front porch that encloses the main entrance and two side replacement windows. The flat roof has a fluted roofline, except the slightly raised portion above the central porch that reads, "UNITED STATES POST OFFICE." A simple band of stone carving is above these words. A carved, stone urn rests in the niche of the south wing, and stone quoins enforce all corners. The interior maintains all of its original woodwork and marble paneling. All of the windows appear to be replacements. (cont.)				28. No. of Stories 1 and 1/2		
43. History and Significance When this building was completed and dedicated in August 1933, it marked the establishment of a fully professional mail service in Oberlin. Mail service was initiated in Oberlin in January 1834; the first postmaster was David C. Crocker. From then until 1896, the Post Office location was moved with every new postmaster to a building of his choice. Under the Postmaster (Judge) John W. Steele, postal carrier service was inaugurated in the village in October 1889. From 1896 to 1933 the post office was located in the Beckwith Block, where the Rex Theater and the Oberlin School of Commerce were located on South Main (cont.)				29. Basement? Yes		
44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (see #52) This building is located at the south end of the central business district on State Route 58, the principal north-south route through Oberlin. Parking is available at the street and this building anchors the governmental buildings in the area.				46. Prepared by M. Fedelchak-Harley; L. Previll		
45. Sources of Information Lorain County Courthouse: Lorain County tax records. O.H.I.O. Resource Center: Oberlin Historic Preservation Commission Files; Oberlin News-Tribune, March 29, 1935. Blodgett, Geoffrey. Oberlin Architecture College and Town: A Guide to its Social History. Oberlin College, 1985.				47. Organization O.H.I.O. and H.P.C.		
				48. Date Recorded 9-30-2000		
				49. Revised by		
				50a. Date Revised		
				50b. Reviewed by		

51. Condition of Property

☐ Excellent☒ Good/Fair☐ Deteriorated☐ Ruin☐ Destroyed/Burned

Date _____

54. Farmstead Plan



52. Historic Outbuildings and Dependencies

Barn Type(s)

☐ Corn Crib or Shed☐ Summer Kitchen☐ Silo☐ Smoke House☐ Spring House☐ Ice House☐ Designed Landscape Features☐ Privy☐ Garage

53. Affiliated OAI Site Number(s) _____

OAI Completed? _____

Archaeological Feature:	Observed	Expected on Basis of Archival Research
Well	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Privy	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Cistern	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Foundation	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Structural Rubble	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Formal Trash Dump	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Other _____	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>

42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued from page 1)

The approach to the front entrance has a recent handicap entrance ramp.

43. History and Significance (Continued from page 1.)

(that building was destroyed to build what is today the AAA Travel Office at 49 South Main). When Postmaster Eugene Dick retired in February 1934, there were thirty postal employees. This reflected the city's significant growth since early days when mail was walked to Oberlin from Elyria and the postmaster was only employed part-time (Oberlin News-Tribune). Oberlin was able to receive federal funds for this building through the influence of Grove Patterson, editor of the Toledo Blade and a college trustee. The building was designed by Toledo architect Alfred Hahn (Blodgett).

This building is significant as an example of federal government architecture, unique in Oberlin, and for its evidence of federal support of a small town. It is also significant as it embodies the history of small town postal service. The Oberlin Post Office was listed by the City of Oberlin as an Oberlin City Landmark in November of 1997.