

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 25 1985  
DATE ENTERED 3-6-85SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Lumberton, N. C. Post Office

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

606 North Elm Street

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Lumberton,

— VICINITY OF

Seventh

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

North Carolina

037

Robeson

075

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY** DISTRICT  
 BUILDING(S)  
 STRUCTURE  
 SITE  
 OBJECT**OWNERSHIP** PUBLIC  
 PRIVATE  
 BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION** IN PROCESS  
 BEING CONSIDERED  
N/A**STATUS** OCCUPIED  
 UNOCCUPIED  
 WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
 YES: RESTRICTED  
 YES: UNRESTRICTED  
 NO**PRESENT USE** AGRICULTURE  
 COMMERCIAL  
 EDUCATIONAL  
 ENTERTAINMENT  
 GOVERNMENT  
 INDUSTRIAL  
 MILITARY  
 MUSEUM  
 PARK  
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
 RELIGIOUS  
 SCIENTIFIC  
 TRANSPORTATION  
 OTHER: vacant**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

United States Postal Service

STREET &amp; NUMBER

2245 Perimeter Park Drive

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Atlanta

— VICINITY OF

Georgia

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Robeson County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

North Elm Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Lumberton

N. C. 28358

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

N/A

DATE

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Lumberton, North Carolina, Post Office is a rectangular structure built in the Beaux Arts style in 1931. The structure is one-story-with-attic, load-bearing masonry laid in 1:4 common bond brick. The original roof was covered with a steep standing-seam copper roof in 1965. This roof provided room for additional federal offices.

The structure rests on a raised cut-limestone basement with molded water-table from which brick pilasters with plain stone capitals, which give the impression of a colonade, rise. These pilasters define all bays and support a plain entablature, dentil cornice and blind stone-capped parapet. All bays are 12 over 12 sash with stone lintels and sills. Over each bay is a plain stone panel. Smaller bays are set in each side facade of the basement. The second bay on the south side has been infilled with red 1:4 common bond brick. The cornerstone is inscribed: "A W MELLON SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY JAMES A WETMORE ACTING SUPERVISING ARCHITECT 1931".

The main four-by-seven-bay block is 69 by 75 feet. To the rear is a 65 by 73 foot addition built in 1965 in style, scale and detail identical to the original block. Only slight difference in brick color and mortar, and the flat roof, show the joining of the addition to the original block. The pilasters, bay details and roof treatment are all beautifully integrated with the original block.

The entrance and four 12-over-12 bays are recessed slightly behind a colonade of fluted stone columns with a variation of Doric column capitals with rosettes and egg and dart echinus. The central door surround is metal topped by an eight-light transom. Over the door in gold lettering is "LUMBERTON, N. C. 28358". The columns support a plain stone entablature with "UNITED STATES POST OFFICE" in brass lettering, a stone dentil cornice and a blind stone-topped parapet. The parapet was continued around the roof line of the 1965 addition.

Bays on the main facade have stone sills, and lintels which are joined by a plain stone band supported by the brick and stone pilasters which define the bays. Over each of the five central bays are plain stone panels. Wide, shallow steps lead to the colonade and are flanked by ornate wrought iron lamp-posts with white glass globes.

Flanking the five central bays are two smaller projecting blind bays with stone architraves, the sills of which are supported by stone consoles. Beneath each bay are plain panels which rest on the water-table band.

The entry leads to a small molded wood and glass vestibule with two side entrances. These doors are fifteen-light with brass fittings. The back wall is three-part paneled wood wainscot on stone course, with fifteen-light center section and three-light sidelights. Wood pilasters, in imitation of the exterior brick pilasters, support a molded cornice. The interior walls are sheathed with marble to a height of eight feet, with plaster above. The floor is terrazzo. The ceiling has been covered by an accoustical tile on grid ceiling with drop florescent lights.

To the north are the original brass post boxes which remain, and an alcove added to accomodate newer boxes, which have been removed. The lobby and boxes form an "L" down the north side of the lobby. In the northwest corner is a closed-string stair with plain railing which leads to the upper offices. An original set of brass-railed steps with a diamond motif leads to the basement.

To the south are the two original offices. These offices are plain with plaster walls. Entrance from the lobby is through a panel and glass door set in a marble surround.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Over this door is a broken marble pediment with dentil cornice supported on fine stone consoles. Flanking the door are brass and glass display cases.

The main desk is at the rear of the lobby area. Behind it is the original mail-handling area and behind that, without dividers, is the mail-handling area created by the addition. This addition has exposed block walls and is unadorned. Access to the original offices on the north side of the main block is in the northwest corner. The addition is also loadbearing masonry with exposed block walls. Off the addition to the rear is the loading dock. Steps lead to the basement area which houses, beneath the addition, a recreation room, locker room and storage area. Under the original block are storage space and the boiler room which still contains the original boiler.

The Lumberton, North Carolina, Post Office remains in good condition, although in need of some maintenance. It sits on half of a block in the central business district of Lumberton, and serves as an anchor at one end of a main commercial street. The site has low foundation plantings, an alley on the south side, and parking lot to the rear. It is an important, nearly intact, example of federal Beaux Arts architecture in the rural southeastern portion of the state. It is a sophisticated structure built and finished with expensive materials and detailing, and is one of few such structures in the town of Lumberton.



## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Saunders, William L. and Clark, Walter. State Records of North Carolina, Vol. 24. Goldsboro: Nash Bros. Printers, 1886 - 1907.
- Withey, Henry F. and Elsie Rathburn. Dictionary of Biographies of American Architects (deceased). Los Angeles: Hennessey & Ingalls, 1970.
- Ross, Thomas. One Land, Three People. Lumberton, N. C.: Thomas Ross, 1982.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,7	6,8,2	5,8,6	3,8	3,2	6,5,0	B					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING					ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
C							D					

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Lumberton Post Office is located on the north half of the block bounded by Elm Street, Seventh and Sixth Streets, and Chestnut Street. The lot is 101' x 216'. See attached plat map, property outlined in red. Lumberton Tax map #33, Lot #91

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

STATE	N/A	CODE	COUNTY	N/A	CODE
STATE		CODE	COUNTY		CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

E. Virginia Oswald

ORGANIZATION

DATE

May 25, 1984

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Route 1, Box 309

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Apex,

N. C. 27502

## 12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

*William S. Phipps*  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is  National  State  Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

Director, Office of Real Estate

DATE

1-15-85 (date of incoming letter)

### FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Beth Enos*

DATE

3/6/85

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Lumberton N.C. Post Office  
Robeson County  
NORTH CAROLINA

Substantive Review

Working No. JAN 25 1985

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/4/86

Date Due: 2/21/85 - 3/11/85

Action:  ACCEPT 3-6-85

RETURN

REJECT

Federal Agency: U.S. Postal Service

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*Although the roof addition is an unfortunate archival addition, the building still retains integrity of design, location, setting, materials, feeling, association and workmanship to be eligible.*

Recom./Criteria Accept C  
Reviewer Amy Schlagel  
Discipline Arch. History  
Date 3/4/85  
see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for:  technical corrections cited below  
 substantive reasons discussed below

*In its context of Lumberton, the building stands as a prominent example of the Beaux-Arts style. represents a significant portion of Robeson County's history among several churches of the state.*

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

**8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

**11. Form Prepared By**

**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Amy Schladt

1343-1536

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

LUMBERTON, N.C. 28558

PRIVATE PARKING  
UNAUTHORIZED  
CARS WILL BE  
TOWED AWAY  
AT OWNERS  
EXPENSE

CAF-360



Lumberton, N. C. Post Office  
Robeson County, N. C.  
Main (west) facade  
May 17, 1984 E. V. Oswald



UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

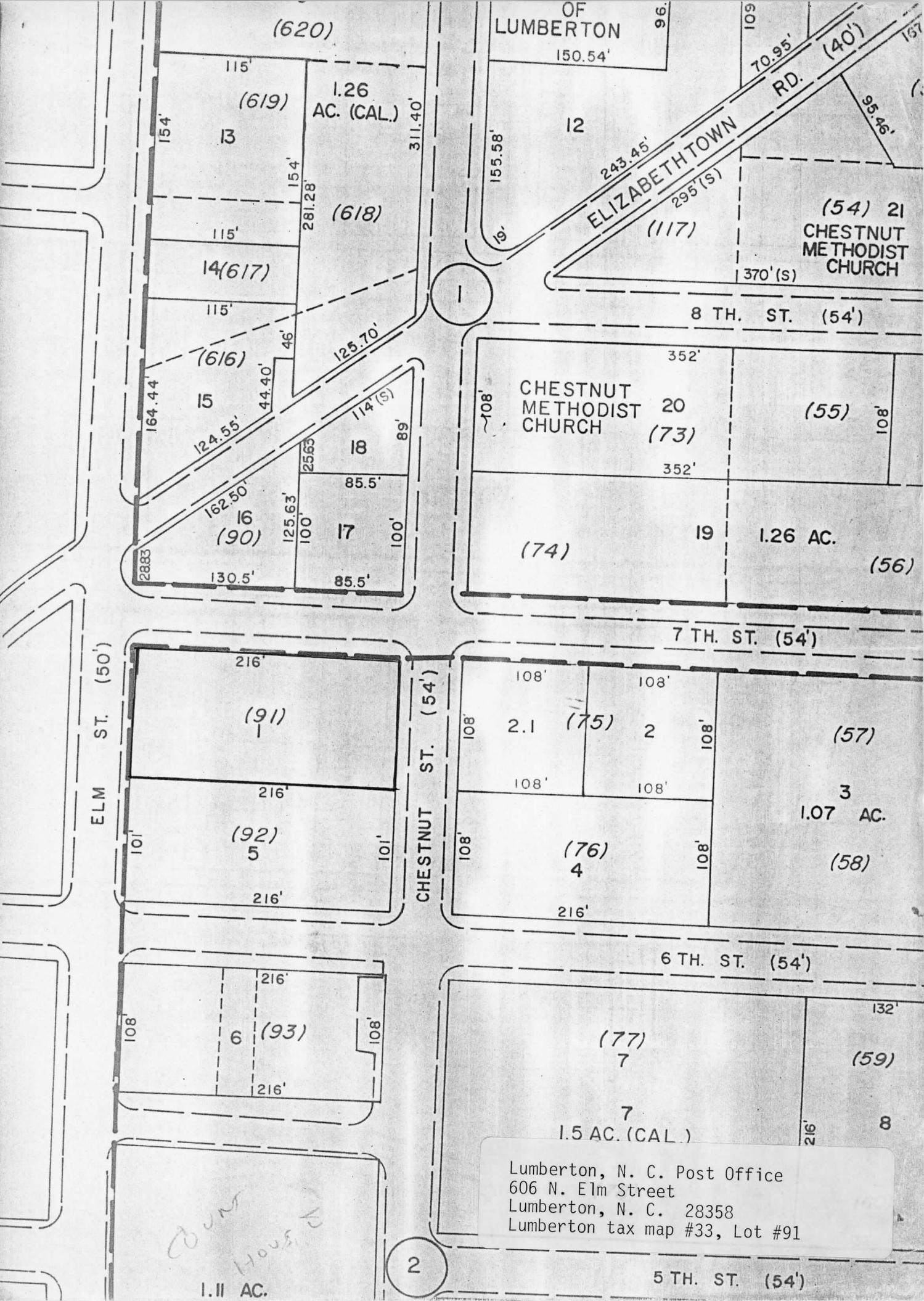
Elm  
THREE

Lumberton, N. C., Post Office  
Robeson County, N. C.  
Oblique overall from south  
May 17, 1984 E. V. Oswald



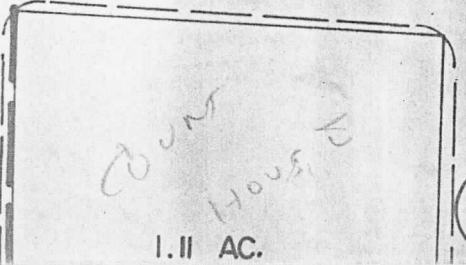
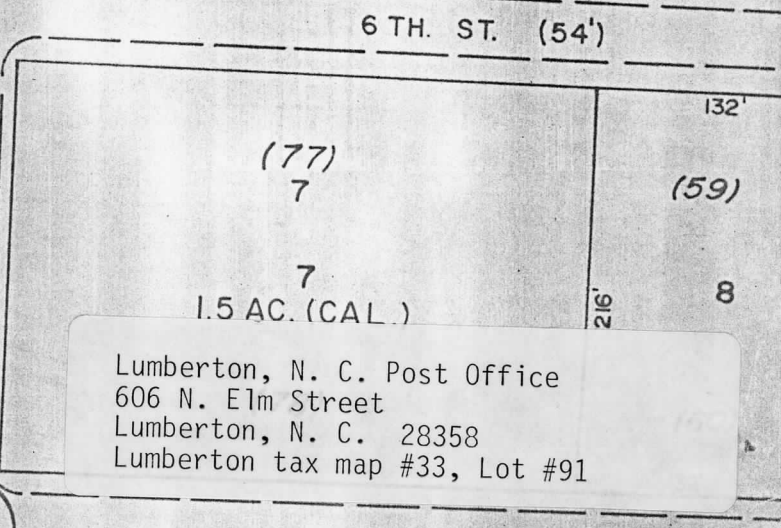
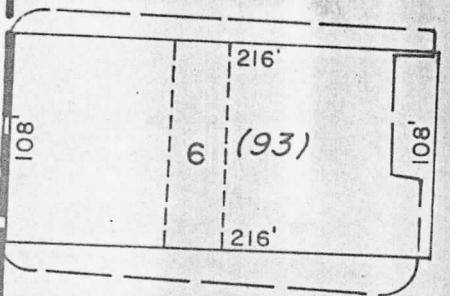
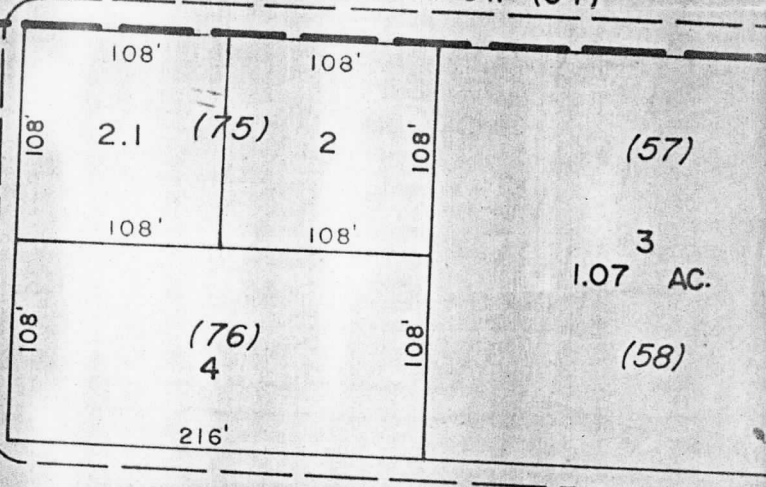
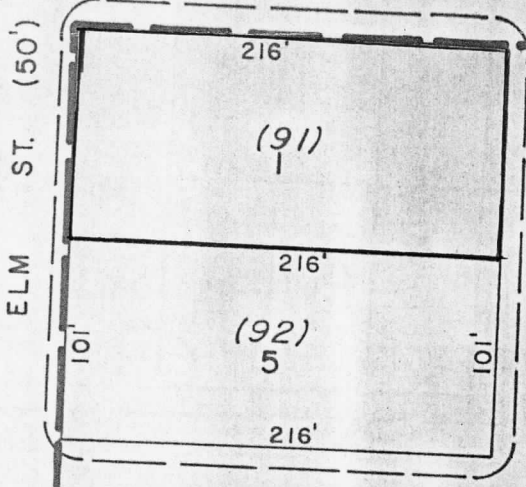
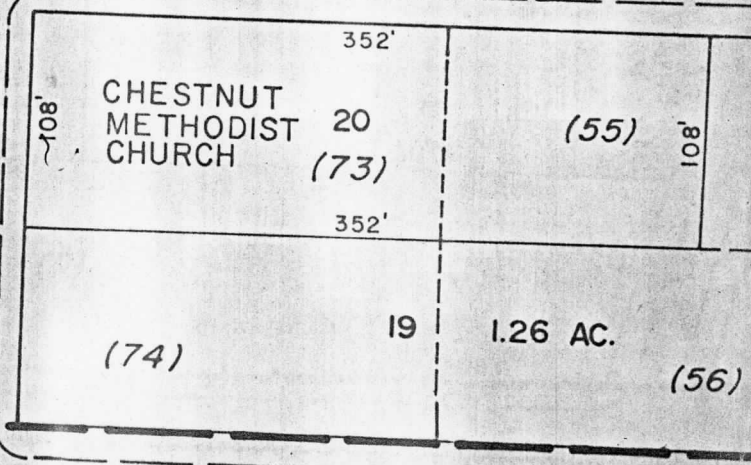
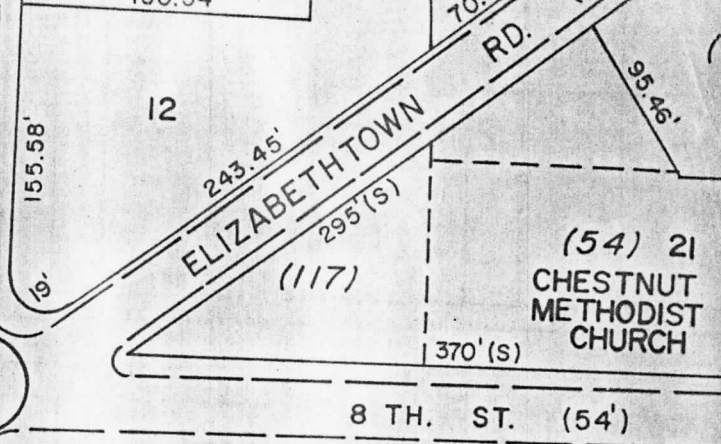
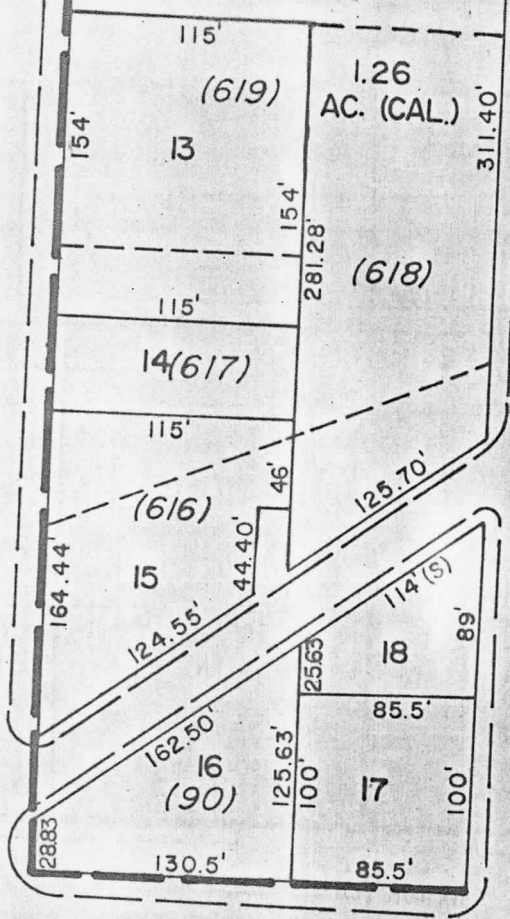
Lumberton, N. C., Post Office  
Robeson County, N. C.  
Interior from south  
May 17, 1984 E. V. Oswald





OF LUMBERTON 96'  
150.54'

(620)



Lumberton, N. C. Post Office  
606 N. Elm Street  
Lumberton, N. C. 28358  
Lumberton tax map #33, Lot #91

**UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE**

FIELD REAL ESTATE AND BUILDINGS OFFICE

2245 PERIMETER PARK DRIVE SUITE 17

ATLANTA, GA 30341-1391

RECEIVED BY

11-16-84

CITY MANAGERS OFFICE

November 14, 1984

Honorable Coble D. Wilson, Jr.  
Mayor  
City of Lumberton  
P. O. Box 1105  
Lumberton, NC 28359-1105

RE: Historical Significance Nomination

Dear Mayor Wilson:

The U. S. Postal Service has determined that the Old Main Post Office located at 610 North Elm Street is historically significant.

We would like to nominate this facility to the National Register of Historic Places.

If you concur, please sign below and return in the self-addressed envelope enclosed.

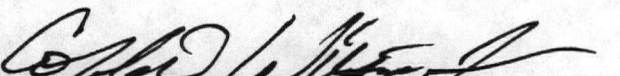
Your prompt response will be most appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Hugh B. Hicks  
Manager, Real Estate Branch

Enclosure

CONCURRENCE:

  
Coble D. Wilson, Jr. Mayor

11-16-84  
Date