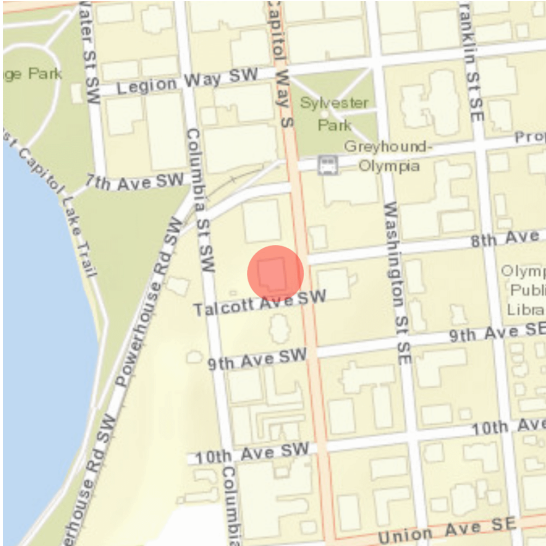


## Location



**Address:** 801 Capitol Way, Olympia, WA  
**Tax No/Parcel No:** 37200800100  
**Plat/Block/Lot:** Browns Blk 8 and 9 Lot 1  
**Geographic Areas:** Olympia Certified Local Government, Thurston Certified Local Government, Thurston County, T18R02W47, OLYMPIA Quadrangle

## Information

**Number of stories:** N/A

### Construction Dates:

Construction Type	Year	Circa
Built Date	1912	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Historic Use:

Category	Subcategory
Government	Government - Post Office
Government	Government - Post Office

### Historic Context:

Category
Architecture
Politics/Government/Law



# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: U.S. Post Office - Olympia Main

Property ID: 19762

## Architect/Engineer:

Category	Name or Company
Architect	Taylor, James Knox, Oscar Wenderoth
Builder	King County Lumber Co.

## Registers:

Register Type	Listed Date	Removed Date	Period of Significance	Level of Significance	Criteria
National Register	11/30/1979		-	Local	C
Washington Heritage Register	11/30/1979		-	Local	C

**Thematics:** Downtown Olympia MRA

## Local Registers and Districts

Name	Date Listed	Notes
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## Project History

Project Number, Organization, Project Name	Resource Inventory	SHPO Determination	SHPO Determined By, Determined Date
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## Photos



S\_Capitol\_Way\_801.jpg



S\_Capitol\_Way\_801 (2).jpg



Register Image



Register Image



Register nomination form



Register nomination form

## Historic Property Report

Resource Name: U.S. Post Office - Olympia Main

Property ID: 19762

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Original HPI form(s)



# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: U.S. Post Office - Olympia Main

Property ID: 19762

## Inventory Details - 1/1/1900

**Common name:** Federal Building (#34-902)

**Date recorded:** 1/1/1900

**Field Recorder:**

**Field Site number:** 908

**SHPO Determination**

### Styles:

Period	Style Details
Mid-Late 19th and Early 20th Century Revivals	Neoclassical



# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: U.S. Post Office - Olympia Main

Property ID: 19762

## Inventory Details - 2/17/2017

**Common name:** Federal Building, Dolliver Building  
**Date recorded:** 2/17/2017  
**Field Recorder:** Spencer Howard, Katie Pratt, Susan Johnson  
**Field Site number:**  
**SHPO Determination**

## Detail Information

### Characteristics:

Category	Item
Foundation	Concrete - Poured
Roof Type	Flat with Parapet
Cladding	Stone - Ashlar/Cut
Structural System	Masonry - Stone
Plan	Rectangle

### Styles:

Period	Style Details
Mid-Late 19th and Early 20th Century Revivals	Neoclassical

## Surveyor Opinion

**Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places:** Yes  
**Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local):** No  
**Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):** No



## Historic Property Report

Resource Name: U.S. Post Office - Olympia Main

Property ID: 19762

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### Significance narrative:

This building is already listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Washington Heritage Register, and the Olympia Heritage Register.

Olympia, Washington, is sited on Budd Inlet at the southernmost edge of Puget Sound. Extensive manipulation of the surrounding land and water has created the landscape of present-day downtown Olympia. The original pioneer settlement of Olympia was located on a small peninsula at the head of Budd Inlet, between the mouth of the Deschutes River and the Swantown Slough marine estuary. Bridges connected the peninsula to the land to the east and west. Steep hillsides comprised the east and west edges of the settlement before regrading to promote easy travel. Dredging efforts over the years defined the Olympia waterfront and downtown, even filling in the Swanton Slough. The waterfront formerly extended to Columbia Street on the west and Jefferson Street on the east (Stevenson, Olympia Downtown Historic District NRHP nomination, 7-1). A dam at the mouth of the Deschutes created the freshwater Capitol Lake out of a saltwater estuary, at the western edge of downtown.

This 2017 reconnaissance level survey of downtown Olympia includes a variety of building types, architectural styles, and development periods. Previous surveys and historic register nominations have provided extensive research and documentation on the history and development of this area. As part of this survey, eight development periods were identified. These periods align with the period of significance associated with the National Register of Historic Places-listed Olympia Downtown Historic District, 1850–1952. This survey and its associated report use the following development periods:

**Pre-history to Early Contact.** This period covers the time prior to nonnative contact when the ancestors of the Squaxin Island Tribe were the region's only inhabitants. It extends until early contact with nonnatives and initial pioneer settlement. No buildings are known to survive from this period.

**1850-1888: Early Settlement and Territorial Government.** Begins with the original plat for the community and continues through early settlement and Olympia's role as the territorial capital.

**1889 - 1911: Statehood, Capitol City, and a New Waterfront.** Begins with Washington becoming a state and covers the city's main dredging and fill efforts, which greatly altered the landscape of downtown Olympia.

**1912-1928: Downtown Expansion.** This period begins with new industry establishing on the waterfront area created from the Carlyon Fill. It continues through the prosperous 1910s and 1920s and the construction boom which occurred in the city.

**1929-1949: Depression, WWII, and an Earthquake.** This period covers the depression and war times and initial post-war growth. It ends with the 1949 earthquake which caused significant property damage.

**1950 - 1968: Reconstruction and Modernization.** This period covers the post-earthquake repair efforts and modern facelifts to historic buildings. It also includes a period of significant mid-century construction of architect-designed commercial buildings.

**1969-1982: New Architectural Styles and Government Shift.** This period covers the growth of the 1970s and the city's shift to a council-mayor form of government.

**1983 – Present: Continued Growth and Revitalization.** This period begins with the beginning of the city's historic preservation program and includes a wave of city improvements approved by the new form of government.



## Historic Property Report

Resource Name: U.S. Post Office - Olympia Main

Property ID: 19762

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**Physical description:**

Located at 801 Capitol Way South, this building is part of downtown Olympia in Thurston County, Washington. Built in 1912, this two-story building represents the Neoclassical style. Historically built for a governmental function, the building continues with the same. The footprint is rectangular. The poured concrete foundation supports the unreinforced masonry framing. Cut stone clads the exterior walls. A flat roof with a parapet caps the building. The original plan, windows and cladding are intact. The exterior shows a high level of integrity in general.

The character-defining features for this property are called out in its National Register nomination. They include but are not limited to:

- Form and massing
- Corinthian colonnade
- Sandstone cladding
- Fenestration
- Exterior doors, pediment hoods



## Historic Property Report

Resource Name: U.S. Post Office - Olympia Main

Property ID: 19762

### Bibliography:

The following sources were referenced in writing the 2017 Downtown Olympia Survey report, primarily the historic context section.

"7th Avenue Tunnel." Olympia Historical Society and Bigelow House Museum. <http://olympiahistory.org/7th-avenue-tunnel/> (accessed March 2017).

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Lange, Greg. "Earthquake Hits Puget Sound Area on April 13, 1949." HistoryLink.org, The Free Encyclopedia of Washington State History. 2000. <http://www.historylink.org/File/2063>.

"Legion to Start Work at Once on Big Auditorium for Use of Olympia." *Olympia Daily Recorder*. September 23, 1920: 1.

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Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division. "Decennial Census Counts of Population for Cities and Towns." [http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/april1/hseries/pop\\_decennial\\_census\\_series\\_1890-2010.xlsx](http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/april1/hseries/pop_decennial_census_series_1890-2010.xlsx) (updated 2012).



# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: U.S. Post Office - Olympia Main

Property ID: 19762

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## Inventory Details - 2/20/2020

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**Common name:**

**Date recorded:** 2/20/2020

**Field Recorder:** Spencer Howard

**Field Site number:**

**SHPO Determination**

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