

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1897-98

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☐ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Philosophy☐ Other, (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_☐ Historic☐ Industry☐ Science☐ Sculpture☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Social/Humanitarian☒ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Theater☐ Transportation☐ Art☐ Literature☐ Commerce☐ Military☒ Communications☐ Music☐ Conservation

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The major significance of the Federal Building is its unusual and distinctive architecture. Great attention to structural and decorative detail is evidenced in this small but unusual structure. Designed by U. S. Treasury architect William Martin Aiken, the building was constructed by Charles A. Moses of Chicago. His bid of \$32,243 was the lowest of fourteen submitted. David A. Murphy, Superintendent of Construction of U. S. Public Buildings, supervised the construction. Ground was broken on September 1, 1897, and the building was completed the following year. Clarksville was able to obtain the building primarily because of the large volume of foreign mail occasioned by its tremendous tobacco business.

The building was used as a post office until the 1930's. Since that time, it has served as offices of the Clarksville Electrical Department.

The building is unique in Tennessee and should be preserved.