

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

1757



National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Farmer's State Bank

other names/site number New Blaine-1

2. Location

street & number 100 Sellars Street

☐ not for publication

city or town New Blaine

☐ vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Logan code 083 zip code 72851

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐  
request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic  
Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐  
does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  
☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Cathie Matthews  
Signature of certifying official/Title

5/13/02  
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See Continuation sheet for additional  
comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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:)

Edson H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

7-11-02

Farmer's State Bank  
Name of Property

Logan County, Arkansas  
County and State

## 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic and Architectural Resources of New Blaine,  
Arkansas

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register**

N/A

## 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: financial institution  
HEALTH CARE: clinic  
GOVERNMENT: post office

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: museum

## 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
OTHER: Vernacular Commercial

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE  
walls STONE  
  
roof ASPHALT  
other N/A

**Narrative Description**  
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

---

### **SUMMARY**

Farmer's State Bank is located at 100 Sellars Street in New Blaine, Arkansas. The rectangular shaped one-story commercial building is the last remaining commercial building in the town. At one time there were several similar stone buildings lined up across from the town's railroad depot. The building is constructed of stone and rests atop a continuous stone foundation. The storefront has been altered, but still closely resembles its original appearance.

### **ELABORATION**

The Farmer's State Bank building, located at 100 Sellars Street in New Blaine, Arkansas, is a fairly sizeable stone constructed commercial building. The rectangular shaped one-story building is the last remaining commercial building in the town. The building was constructed circa 1922 when the railroad the development of a New Blaine. At one time there were several similar stone buildings lined up along Main Street across from the town's railroad depot. The building rests atop a continuous stone foundation and is sheltered by a flat roof that is accented by a small parapet and two small stone towers. Local stonemasons John Friga and Freeborn Lasater under the supervision of stonemason Aaron Moore constructed the building. The storefront has been altered, but still closely resembles its original appearance. A faded sign reading "Farmers State Bank" remains above the building's storefront.

### **Southwest Elevation**

The building faces southwest toward Sellers Street. At the time the building was constructed, Sellars Street was Main Street. The front of the store has been altered somewhat. The entire front, with the exception of the doorway was infilled with stone when the Church of Christ purchased the building in the early 1940s. When the present owner purchased the building she had the changes reversed and used photographs to restore the building's front. The building has a centrally located entryway with double metal doors. Two transom windows crown the entryway. The entryway is flanked by large storefront windows, each of which is crowned by a transom. The storefront pane configuration matches the original windows, but the two storefront windows are slightly smaller than the originals. The remaining area of the window surrounds is infilled with weatherboard. The top of the building is accented with a small parapet and two small towers that rise from the corners of the building.

### **Southeast Elevation**

The southeast side elevation is typical of most vernacular commercial buildings. The only fenestration on the elevation is in the form of three double-hung windows. The first is twelve-over-one with diamond shaped pane configuration. The second window is one-over-two and the third is twelve-over-two with diamond shaped panes.

**United States Department of the Interior**

National Park Service

# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

---

**Northeast Elevation**

The rear of the building is fenestrated by a doorway that was used by the post office that occupied the back portion of the building for several years. There was also a window that has been infilled with plywood.

**Northwest Elevation**

There is a side entrance to the back portion of the building. The single wood door is crowned by a transom and flanked by twelve-over-four double-hung windows. Next, there is another side door that is also crowned by a transom followed by two twelve-over-two windows. The final fenestration is a twelve-over-one window.

**Interior**

The interior features a 6' x 10' stone vault. The current owner uses the building as a museum and was able to obtain postal boxes that were used when the rear of the bank was the post office

**8. Statement of Significance****Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ **B** removed from its original location.

☐ **C** birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.

☐ **D** a cemetery.

☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ **F** a commemorative property

☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Levels of Significance** (local, state, national)

Local

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE

SOCIAL HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1922-circa1940

**Significant Dates**

1922

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation** (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Moore, Aaron- Foreman

Friga, John and Freeborn Lasater- laborers

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References****Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

☐ previously listed in the National Register

☐ Previously determined eligible by the National Register

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark

☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey  
#

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering

**Primary location of additional data:**

☒ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State Agency

☐ Federal Agency

☐ Local Government

☐ University

☐ Other

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

### SUMMARY

Constructed circa 1922, the Farmer's State Bank, is being nominated with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its association with the development of commerce and growth of the town of New Blaine. The building is the only remaining of seven commercial buildings that one time lined the town's Main Street. It is also being nominated under **Criterion C** as the best and only remaining example of a commercial building in the town. It is being submitted in conjunction with the historic context "**History and Architecture of New Blaine, Arkansas: 1920-1940**".

### ELABORATION

When the Fort Smith-Subiaco Rock Island Railroad came through the area of present-day New Blaine, the trade center in the area was across Shoal Creek in Blaine. Almost instantly businesses began moving across the creek to be closer to the railroad. W.C. Roady opened the Farmer's State Bank for business in 1922.

The front of the building served as a bank and the back portion was the office of Dr. Robinson. The bank opened with \$12,000 capital stock. The bank stock was divided into 480 shares valued at \$25 each. The maximum an individual person was allowed to invest in the bank was \$500 or 20 shares. Mr. Roady, the bank president and principle owner, had 88 shares.

After Dr. Robinson moved out of the building, his former office became the New Blaine Post Office. Mr. Pat Burnham was town postmaster. Later his daughter Ratha would become his assistant. Around this same time the railroad was abandoned. The town never fully recovered.

In 1934 Mr. Roady notified depositors that he was closing the bank. Unlike many banks that closed during the Great Depression, Mr. Roady was able to refund his customer's deposits in full. With the bank closed, the New Blaine Post Office now occupied the entire building. It continued to operate out of the building until the early 1940s when the structure was sold to the Church of Christ.

The church occupied the building until the early 1980s when Mary Gehring purchased the building. Mrs. Gehring reversed changes made to the building by the church and started the New Blaine Museum. Today the building houses photographs and other items that give the town's current residents insight to their ancestors lives and the town they built.

### Statement of Significance

Constructed circa 1922, the Farmer's State Bank, is being nominated with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its association with the development of commerce and growth of the town of New Blaine. The building is the only remaining of seven commercial buildings that one time lined the town's Main Street. There is no other building in town that better represents the rise and decline of New Blaine, Arkansas. It is also being

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places

## Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

---

nominated under **Criterion C** as the best and only remaining example of a commercial building in the town. It is being submitted in conjunction with the historic context "**History and Architecture of New Blaine, Arkansas: 1920-1940**".

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

---

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Certificate of Incorporation for Farmer's State Bank, New Blaine, Arkansas. State of Arkansas Banking Department, 1922.

Gehring, Mary. Interview with Zac Cothren. January 2002.

Lane, Ratha Burnham. Interview with Zac Cothren. January 2002.

Gehring, Mary Wood and Ratha Burnham Lane. Remembering....Shoal Creek, Blaine, New Blaine, Harkey's Valley, River Mountain, Pin Hook, Liberty, New Liberty, and Deleware in Logan County, Arkansas. 1997.

Farmer's State Bank  
Name of Property

Logan County, Arkansas  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property One acre

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1      15      461711      3905093  
      Zone      Easting      Northing  
2      \_\_\_\_\_

3      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_  
      Zone      Easting      Northing  
4      \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Lots 9,10,11,12 in block 1 of town of New Blaine, Logan County, Arkansas

### Boundary Justification

The boundary includes all resources historically associated with the building.

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Zac Cothren  
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 05/07/2002  
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center St. telephone (501) 324-9880  
city or town Little Rock state AR zip code 72201

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

## Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Farmer's State Bank  
NAME:

MULTIPLE New Blaine, Arkansas MPS  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Logan

DATE RECEIVED: 5/31/02 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/24/02  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/10/02 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/15/02  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 02000757

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 7.11.02 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Entered in the  
National Register*

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



1. Farmer's State Bank
2. Logan Co., AR
3. Zee Cochran
4. Aug. 2001
5. AHPP
6. Southwest elevation.
7. #1



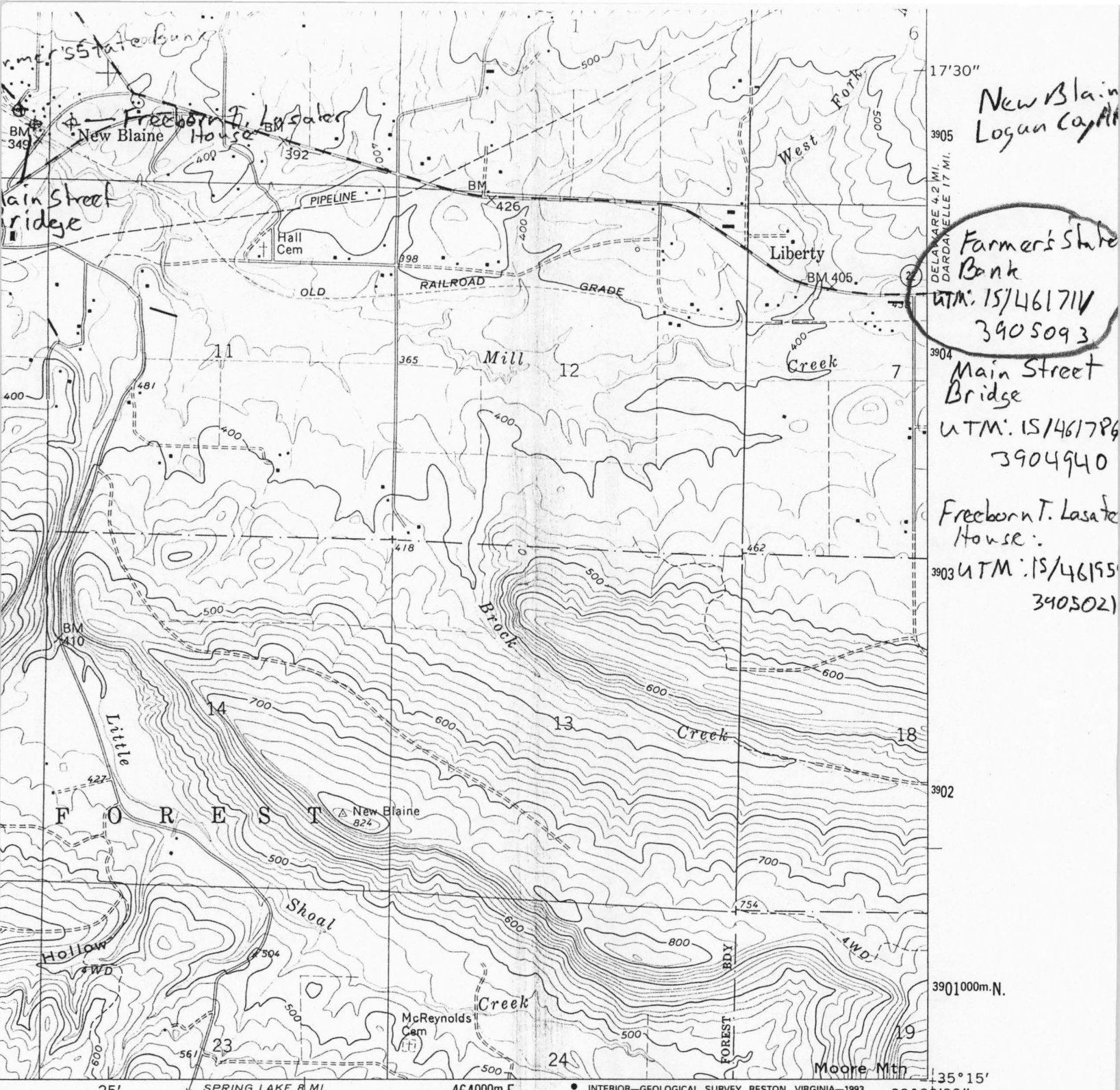
1. Farmer's State Bank
2. Logan Co., AR
3. Zoe Collier
4. Aug. 2001
5. AT&PP
6. Northwest side.
7. #2



1. Farmer's Shale Bank
2. Logan Co., AR
3. Zac Cochran
4. Aug. 2001
5. AHPP
6. Northeast elevation (back)
7. H3



1. Farmer's Shute Bank
2. Logan Co., AR
3. Zoe Cotwen
4. August 2001
5. H+PP
6. Southeast side
7. H4



1 MILE



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

### ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Primary highway, hard surface
- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road
- Interstate Route
- U. S. Route
- State Route

NEW BLAINE, ARK.  
35093-C4-TF-024

1993

DMA 7354 IV SW-SERIES V884