

HISTORIC NAME: Fremad Association Building/Pope County COUNTY: Pope  
 State Bank Building  
 CURRENT NAME: Fremad Building/Law Building CITY/TWP.: Glenwood City  
 LEGAL DESC.: See continuation sheet ADDRESS: 2-22 South Franklin

CLASSIFICATION: CONDITION: SIGNIFICANCE: THEME/S:  
 Buildings s X Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Local x \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Commerce  
 Structure \_\_\_\_\_ Good X \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Architecture  
 Object \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_ National \_\_\_\_\_ Others \_\_\_\_\_  
 District \_\_\_\_\_ Deteriorated \_\_\_\_\_

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ Restricted X PRESENT USE:  
 VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD: Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ Commercial  
 OCCUPIED: Yes X No X

DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1893/1919 (Fremad Bldg); 1908 ORIGINAL USE: Store/Bank  
 (Bank Bldg.)  
 ORIGINAL OWNER: Fremad Assn.; Pope Co. State Bank ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: See continuation sheet ACREAGE: Less than one acre X

LOCAL CONTACT/CRG.: Pope County Historical Society; Highway UTM REFERENCE:  
 104 South; Glenwood, Minnesota GLENWOOD, MN QUAD  
 FORM PREPARED BY: Dennis A. Gimmedstad 15-313760-5057660  
 DATE: September 1980

DESCRIPTION:

The Fremad Association Building and the Pope County State Bank occupy a one-half block long corner site on South Franklin Avenue in downtown Glenwood.

The Fremad Building is a large, rectangular two-story structure of dark brick. The Association had constructed a smaller two-story brick structure on the same corner in 1893; it appears that the present structure is the result of a remodeling and expansion project undertaken in 1919. The main Franklin Avenue facade includes a continuous row of storefronts (somewhat altered) at the street level and an recessed entrance to the second story at the north end. This entrance features decorative cast-concrete ornamentation, a panel carrying the name "Fremad", and two date plates carrying the years 1874 (the year the Association was founded) and 1919 (the year the present building was remodeled). The second floor-features twelve regularly-spaced rectangular windows with continuous sill and altered infill. The south facade features a small storefront at the rear (west) of the street level and similar treatment as the front at the second level. A simple, rectilinear concrete ornamentation reminiscent of Prairie School design appears on both facades.

The interior of the first floor was originally open space housing the different departments of the store operation; it has since been divided into separate retail quarters. The meeting hall on the second floor is used by a Masonic Lodge; the remaining second floor space, originally used for offices and for meat curing, has been converted into apartments.

The Pope County State Bank Building (1908), immediately to the north of the Fremad Building, is a two-story brick commercial structure with a Neo-Classical Revival facade on its Franklin Avenue side. The gray concrete facade features a parapet broken by a dentillated pediment over a dentillated cornice. The freize below the cornice carries the word "Bank" in relief and a narrow egg-and-dart molding. The balance of the facade consists of two square pillars at either end and two round columns equally spaced at the center, all utilizing an egg-and-dart capital motif. The front wall of white glazed brick is recessed behind concrete facade; window and door sash on this wall have been altered. A name panel extending the full width of the building between the second and first stories is a recent addition. The interior of the building has been remodeled.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Fremad Association Building and the Pope County State Bank Building represent a central focus of the commercial life of Glenwood and of Pope County from initial years of development to the mid-twentieth century. The Fremad Association ("Fremad" is Norwegian for "forward") was established as a cooperative mercantile company in 1874. The

Significance - continued

Association was formed jointly by M.A., C.T., and Nels Wollan, members of a family that had homesteaded in White Bear Center in the 1860s, and several stockholders, in response to the promotion of cooperative warehouses and store by the Grange. The Association's stores at White Bear Center, and later, at Starbuck, were phased out at an early date, and the activities became centered at the Glenwood store. First conducting business in the Wollan Brothers Hardware Store, the Association occupied a frame structure at the present location in 1875. In addition to the general merchandising business, the Association subsequently added operations of a bank and lumber yard. In 1893, a large two-story brick structure with retail space below and an auditorium at the second level replaced the early frame building. The banking business was formally chartered as the Pope County State Bank in 1908, and the present bank structure erected at that time. The main Fremad Building was extended and remodeled to its present appearance in 1919. The Association was in business until 1949; the Pope County State Bank remains in operation today at a different location. An example of a cooperative company formed jointly by small town businessmen and surrounding farming interests, the Fremad Association played a pivotal role in the commercial life of the county. In addition, the Neo-Classical Revival facade of the Pope County State Bank Building remains as a distinctive turn-of-the-century component of downtown Glenwood.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Fremad Building:

Lot 10 ex. N 25' & part of Lot 9 ex. 8' of N 25' & ex. pt. rec. in bk 99, pg. 320

Bank Building:

N 25 ft of Lot 10 & E. 8 ft. of N 25 ft. of Lot 9

OWNERSHIP:

Fremad Building:

August Schmitz, Glenwood, MN 56334. To: Lester Ogdahl, 615 NE 4th Ave., Glenwood, Minnesota 56334

Bank Building:

Pope County Investment Company, Glenwood, Minnesota 56334. To: James F. & Phyllis Nelson, Rt. 2, Box 94A, Glenwood, MN 56334

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Glenwood Herald. January 1, 1897; August 6, 1914.

Hughes, Daisy. Builders of Pope County. (Glenwood?): Privately published, 1930. p. 13.

The Pope County State Bank. Unsigned, undated manuscript in files of Pope County Historical Society.

Pope County Tribune. June 12, 1930; October 7, 1971.



