CITY, TOWN

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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FOR NPS USE ONLY

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NAME				
HISTORIC				
	nmercial Histor <u>ic Dist</u>	rict		
AND/OR COMMON				
LOCATION		1 1		
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Front Street	and for St. Melle	M. S. A. A. C. Ch.	NOT FOR PUBLICATION	107
Casselton		VICINITY OF	CONGRESSIONAL DISTR 1	ICI
STATE	-	CODE	COUNTY	^{CODE} 017
North Dakota		38	Cass	017
CLASSIFIC	ATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
XDISTRICT	PUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)	X_PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	X_COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENC
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
	NA	NO	MILITARY	_OTHER:
OWNER OF	PROPERTY			
NAME ,				
	See Continuation Sheet	,)		
STREET & NUMBER	•			
CITY, TOWN	and the second s	- All the second	STATE	
		VICINITY OF		
LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCR	IPTION	•	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS,	ETC. Cass County Co	urthouse		
STREET & NUMBER	211 9th Street	South		
CITY, TOWN	211 501 501 00	304611	STATE	
	Fargo	`-J	North D	akota
REPRESEN	TATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS	,	
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DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS	N/A		·	
JOHAF! HECOURS	IN/A			

N/A

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

__UNALTERED
X ALTERED

X ORIGINAL SITE

DATE .

X_GOOD X_FAIR __RUINS __UNEXPOSED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Casselton Commercial District is a compact grouping of late 19th and early 20th century structures which occupy a two-and-one-half block area along the north side of the Northern Pacific Railroad right-of-way in Casselton, North Dakota. With few interruptions, these buildings present a continuous two-story brick facade to the south, and this treatment extends nearly a block to the north with other isolated but compatible structures. Every architectural style which was prevalent in North Dakota from 1878 through the First World War are represented here, including false-front "boomtown" facades, elaborate Victorian Gothic fronts with extensive brickwork and pressed metal ornament, as well as formal Neo-Classical facades influenced by the Columbian Exposition of 1893.

The following seventeen sites constitute the District:

1. Duplex Residence, 44-46 Eighth Avenue North.

This is a wood framed vernacular structure, approximately 35' by 25', a story and one half in height, with a 20' by 20' shed roofed service wing at the rear. A front porch extends across the front (east) facade. All original clapboard siding, windows and trim appear to be intact. The gable roof has been resurfaced with asphalt shingles.

2. Single-family Residence, 42 Eighth Avenue North.

This is also a wood framed vernacular structure built about 1880. The main portion measures approximately 30' by 20', with a gable roof; there is a single-story service wing of approximately equal dimension. The walls and roof have been resurfaced with asphalt siding and shingles. Aluminum windows have been added and the original porch (indicated on Sanborn maps) has been removed.

3. Cass County Bank, 742-746 Front Street.

This Victorian Gothic commercial building was constructed in 1887 to house banking and other commercial functions. It is brick bearing wall construction, 50' by 90' and two stories, with a tall parapet wall along the two street facades. The narrow window openings and the parapet wall are decorated with extensive pressed metal ornament, including hoods, brackets, finials and deeply embossed floral motifs. The corner entry to the former bank is chamferred at a 45 degree angle and is surmounted with an elaborate gable in which the word "BANK" and the date "1887" appear prominently. North and west walls are of common brick; burnished red brick is used on the street facades.

The two ground floor commercial spaces are separated on the Front Street elevation by a door providing access to the second floor space, which has been used for both commercial and residential purposes.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

SPECIFIC DAT	es Various	BUILDER/ARCI	HITECT Various	,
		INVENTION		
X_1 90 0-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
X_1800-1899	X COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY.	TRANSPORTATION
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The first permanent white settlement at Goose Creek, the site of present-day Casselton, was made by Mike Smith in 1873; platted by the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1877, lots finally began to sell the following year. The main line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, and at the heart of the Red River Valley's Bonanza Farms, the community prospered, reaching a population of 376 by 1880; and nearly 1,400 by the end of the Dakota Boom in 1885. The unbounded optimism of those years brought about rapid change from makeshift "boomtown" to a more substantial architectural appearance. Within the middle years of the 1880's, Casselton became the second largest town in the county and proudly erected a Victorian Gothic commercial center which substantially remains today.

The entrepreneurs who developed Casselton were men broadly associated with the Dakota Boom. N. K. Hubbard, for example, had come to the Territory in 1870 from Massachusetts and within five years established a chain of supply stores from Detroit Lakes to Jamestown. Hubbard is associated with the founding of several banks (the First National Bank in Fargo, the Goose River Bank in Hillsboro, and the Cass County Bank (#3) in Casselton) as well as a number of commercial ventures, including a store formerly located immediately west of the Cass County Bank. E. S. Tyler, Hubbard's former partner, was another active speculator, as were Wallace Grosvernor and S. H. Knight, all immigrants to the area from New England. Other early merchants included H. F. Strehlow and J. F. Langer, father of North Dakota's maverick politician, "Wild Bill" Langer.

Frank Lynch may perhaps be typical of the varied interests of local capitalists. Arriving in 1882 from Minnesota, Lynch eventually came to own the Occidental Hotel, a part interest in the Masonic Block (#15), and other unidentified properties in Casselton. He served two terms as mayor and was for a time president of the Amenia and Sharon Grain Company.

With the exception of a lumber yard, grain handling, and a few hotels, most commerce was confined to the two-and-one-half block central business district. The earliest structures were of light frame construction. A remarkable survival of that earliest period is the 1878 Ontario (now Ries) Hotel (#7), formerly located on the present Casselton State Bank (#6) site, moved to its current Langer Avenue location before 1900, and still operated as a hotel. Frequent fires destroyed similar frame buildings or they were subsequently veneered with masonry or tin. But growth of investment after 1881 required more sophisticated architecture.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFER	ENCES	į
Casselton Centennial 1879-1979: June 28 publisher, 1979) Fargo Daily Argus (newspaper; various da The Record, vol. 7 (December 1895) Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, maps for	ites)	
Tunion in the man and the maps for		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 9.3 acres		
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E[1,4] [6[3,0]0,7,0] [5,1]9,4[5,2,0]	F[1,4] [6]3,4[0,4,5]	5,119,415,3,01
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See Continuation Sheet		- - -
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIE	S OVERLAPPING STATE OR COU	NTY BOUNDARIES
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STATE CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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NAMÉ/ TITLE		
Ronald L.M. Ramsey, Architectural Histor	rian DATE	
Seth W. Twichell and Associates		28, 1982
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPI	
415 North 3rd Avenue / Box 828	/UT/ STATE	/237-6825
Fargo	Nort	th Dakota
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION	OFFICER CERTIFIC	ATION
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THE	IIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STAT	TE IS:
NATIONAL X STATE	X LOCAL	<u>X</u>
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the Nathereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Registration and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE	£	
TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer	DATE	August 17, 1982
FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN	THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE	1.60/21
(I) KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER		- // - /
ATTEST: CHIEF OF REGISTRATION	DATE	

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

DATE ENTERED

	CONTINUATION SHEET	. ITEM NUMBER 4	PAGE 1
4.	OWNER OF PROPERTY (Cont	inued)	
Pro	perty	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Address</u>
1.	Duplex Residence 44-46 8th Ave. N. (Orig. Town., B1.5, E 90' of Lot 1)	Elizabeth Dalrymple	Casselton, ND 58012
2.	Single Family Residence 42 8th Ave. N. (Orig. Town., B1.5, Lot 2 except W 17')	Rheinhart Rusch	42 8th Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012
3.	Cass County Bank 742-746 Front St. (Orig. Town., B1.5, Lots 4, 5)	Joseph [·] H. and John J. Woell	746 Front St. Casselton, ND 58012
4.	Commercial Building 714-722 Front St. (Orig. Town., B1.5, Lots 10, 11, 12)	Clarence M. and Florence Krueger (E 19-1/3' of Lot 10)	422 10th Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012
		Sophus and Martha Trom (W 5-2/3' of Lot 10, E 10' of Lot 11)	c/o Ben Parkhouse 211 8th Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012
		Ken Habiger (Lot 12, W 15' of Lot 11)	744 Front St. Casselton, ND 58012
5.	Commercial Building 710-712 Front St. (Orig. Town., Bl. 5, Lots 13, 14)	Casselton State Bank	Casselton, ND 58012
6.	Peoples State Bank/ Casselton State Bank 11 Langer Ave. N. (Orig, Town., B1.5, Lot 15)	Casselton State Bank	Casselton, ND 58012

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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Pro	pperty	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Address</u>
7.	Ries Hotel & Bar with outbuildings 31 Langer Ave. N. (Orig. Town., B1.5, Lot 16)	Henry R. and Leona M. Ries	Box 95 Casseston, ND 58012
8.	Tise Photographic Studio 33 Langer Ave. N. (Orig. Town., B1.5, W 2/3 of Lot 17)	Henry R. and Leona M. Ries	Box 95 Casselton, ND 58012
9.	Glasgow Block 638 Front St. (Orig. Town., B1.4, Lots 6, 7)	Joyce McCartney	452 10th Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012
10.	Port Bakery & Restaurant 630 Front St. (Orig. Town., B1.4, Lot 8)	Anna Belle Olwell c/o Richard Olwell	1326 N. 1st. Fargo, ND 58102
11.	Port Block/Portland Hotel 620-626 Front St.	Ken Habiger (Lot 9)	744 Front St. Casselton, ND 58012
	(Orig. Town., B1.4, Lots 9, 10, 11)	Ambrose and Ruth Roden (Lot 10)	321 10th Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012
		John and Sylvia Siverson (Lot 11)	1021 Front St. Casselton, ND 58012
12.	Commercial Building 618 Front St. (Orig. Town., B1.4, Lot 12)	Rolland English, et. al.	Casselton, ND 58012

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(CONTINUATION SHEET	. ITEM NUMBER 4	page 3
-			
Pro	perty	<u>Owner</u>	Address
13.	Knight Block Northeast corner of Front St. & 6th Ave. N. (Orig. Town., Bl.4, Lots 13, 14, 15)	Rolland English, et. al.	Casselton, ND 58012
14.	First National Bank/ State Bank of Casselton Northwest corner of Front St. & 6th Ave. N. (First Add., B1., 14, Lots 4, 5, N 40' of Lot 6)	James Runck	Durbin, ND 58023
15.	Masonic Hall/West Funeral Home 31 6th Ave. N. (Orig. Town,, B1.4, Lot 16 except N 17')	Wayne G. West	31 6th Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012
16.	Frank Lynch Machinery Hall 51 6th Ave. N. (Orig. Town., B1.4, Lot 18)	Frank Kasowski	Casselton, ND 58012
17.	Newton Block 44-48 6th Ave. N. (First Add., B1.14, Lot 1)	James R. Hohnadel	744 4th St. S. Casselton, ND 58012
Non	-contributing structures:		
Α.	Northwestern Bell Telephone Company 1st. St. N. (Orig, Town., B1.5, W 50' of E 140' of Lot 1, W 17' of Lot 2, E 1/3' o Lot 17, W 10' of Lot 1, E 1/3' of Lot 18)	Northwestern Bell Telephone Company f	Fargo, ND 58102 Attn: Tax Department

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Pro	pperty	<u>Owner</u>	Address
В.	Smith T. V. and Appliance 30 Front St. (Orig. Town., B1.5, Lots 6, 7, 8, 9)	Ralph D. and Florence N. Smith	612 6th Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012
С.	Casselton Standard Service 51 Langer Ave. N. (Orig. Town., B1.5, W 2/3 of Lot 18)	Bennet and Clarice A. Parkhouse	211 8th Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012
D.	Casselton Cold Storage 52 Langer Ave. N. (Orig. Town., B1.4 Lot 1)	Arnold and John Eraker	52 Langer Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012
Ε.	Casselton Dairy Queen Langer Ave. N. (Orig. Town., B1.4 E 140' of Lot 2)	Arnold and John Eraker	52 Langer Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012
F.	Thompson Motor Service Langer Ave. N. (Orig. Town., B1.4 Lot 3)	Michael L. King	142 5th Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012
G.	Federated Store 646 Front St. (Orig. Town., B1.4 Lots 4, 5)	Martin D. Larsen	321 12th Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012
Н.	First Federated Savings of Fargo 11 6th Ave. N. (Orig. Town., B1.4 N 25' of Lots	Rolland English, et. al.	Casselton, ND 58012

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	CONTINUATION SHEET	. ITEM NUMBER 4	PAGE 5
Pro	pperty	<u>Owner</u>	Address
I.	Casselton Bowling Lanes 41 6th Ave. N. (Orig. Town., B1.4, W 10' of Lot 2, Lot 17)	Casselton Bowling Lanes	41 6th Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012
J.	Holt Implement 42 6th Ave. N. (First Add., B1.4, Lots 2, 3)	Edward L. and Helen C. Holt	301 12th Ave. N. Casselton, ND 58012

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4. Commercial Building, 714-722 Front Street.

Though now in separate ownership, these appear to have been built as one structure. The 75' front facade is two stories high with a brick parapet. It is divided into four nearly equal sections, each corresponding to a store front, though now two of those have been combined. Architectural interest lies in the segmented brick arches above the second floor windows and in the relatively simple corbelled brick cornice; the arches are joined by a course of diagonally placed brick which create an interesting shadow pattern and provide the only clue to the width differences of the four facades. The original tall narrow windows have been replaced with smaller windows and the remaining opening filled with a plywood panel; some windows have been completely filled.

5. Commercial Building, 710-712 Front Street.

Only a fragment of the original facade remains. The brick parapet wall retains some interesting recessed brick panels and the slightly projecting cornice is of red sandstone. The two 25' commercial fronts have been remodelled several times, most recently in 1980, when they were filled with four brick arches and joined with the bank building to the west.

6. Peoples State Bank/Casselton State Bank, 11 Langer Avenue North.

A two story brick building, 25' by 100', this was not originally constructed for banking purposes, though it has served in that capacity for most of its existence. In 1980 the upper elevation was remodelled on both the Front Street and the Langer Avenue facades; a 1950 aluminum grille was removed and the facade restored to its original appearance circa 1895. Brick arched windows are placed in large recessed panels, the division of panels corresponding to the location of chimneys. Above, a series of identical smaller panels establishes a decorative band below the slightly projecting brick cornice. Also in 1980, the two street facades were remodelled to be in sympathy with the restored portions of the building; large brick arches frame both door and window openings into the ground floor banking rooms.

7. Ries Hotel & Bar, with outbuildings, 31 Langer Avenue North.

The Ries Hotel was moved to this site about 1895 to make room for the present Casselton State Bank. It is a wood framed two story "Boomtown" structure with gable roof and partial front parapet or false front. Wood clapboard siding sheaths the entire building, which is "el" shaped, 25' by 80' in its extreme dimensions; the rear service wing is slightly lower in height. The front facade was originally symmetrical, though the door has been shifted to the right side, with two large windows at the center and left.

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7. Ries Hotel & Bar, 31 Langer Avenue North (continued).

Elsewhere on the site are two service buildings. Northwest of the hotel is an "el" shaped structure, possibly created by the joining of two separate structures. Each part is wood framed, though the east portion is partially covered with metal panels embossed in a brick pattern; the roof is also covered with embossed metal shingles. This composite structure is approximately 20' by 40' in its extreme dimensions. Father east is a storage or livery building constructed about 1908; to about 9 feet, the walls are of ashlar faced concrete block, with woodframed metal-covered walls up to the gable roof. This structure is approximately 40' square.

8. Tise Photographic Studio, 33 Langer Avenue North.

Two structures occupy this site and are similar in construction and detail to the Ries Hotel next door. The more prominent photographic studio faces Langer Avenue with a tall false front of clapboard siding; a door on the right is balanced with a large fixed window on the left. Behind this 20' by 40' clapboard sided building is a similar storage facility of undetermined age; it is 20' wide, but nearly 50' long and is also covered with a gable roof.

9. Glasgow Block, 638 Front Street.

The two story portion of the Glasgow Block is 50' wide, but only about 40' deep; single story portions of the building extend to the rear of the 130' property. The main facade on Front Street is Neo-Classical, with a symmetrical three-part composition; the upper facade and pediment are divided into a 2-3-2 rhythm of windows with a corresponding raised parapet at the center. The windows openings have both flat and semi-circular arches; the cornice is pressed metal. Nothing remains of the two original ground floor commercial fronts.

10. Port Bakery & Restaurant, 630 Front Street.

This 25' store front is somewhat altered. The upper facade is divided into thirds, with each recessed brick panel containing a single window. Two of the three windows retain their pressed metal segmented pediment. There is an abreviated corbelled brick cornice and stone window sills.

11. Port Block/Portland Hotel, 620-626 Front Street.

Built about 1910, the Port Block presents an imposing 75' Neo-Classical facade toward Front Street. The upper facade remains intact and does not correspond to the division of commercial space below. A central section of nearly 50' contains eight windows within heavily rusticated brickwork; brick voussoirs and red sandstone keystones form segmented arches over the windows. At either side of this

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11. Port Block/Portland Hotel, 620-626 Front Street (continued).

there are two slightly projecting pavillions with round arched windows and brick quoins. Several courses of corbelled brick dentils and sawtoothed diagonal brick unify the facade and provide a base for the parapet which is treated a balustrade. In the center is a red sandstone panel with the name "PORT. BLOCK", which is bracketed and surmounted with a shallow pediment.

12. Commercial Building, 618 Front Street.

This 25' front is unusual in Casselton because it is on of the few which retains any of the ground floor elevation. The recent store front remodelling is contained between red brick piers which continue from the ground through the second floor to support pressed metal Ionic column capitals; there is a similar central pier which begins at the second floor window sills. The two spaces between these three engaged columns each have a wide flat-arched window at the second floor; the sill and rusticated keystone are of red sandstone. The capitals support an elaborate entablature, cornice and parapet. The entablature has delicate pressed metal swaggers anchored to the facade with flowing pressed metal ribbons; the projecting cornice is pressed metal as well; finally, there is a brick and sandstone parapet.

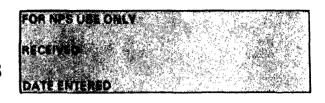
13. Knight Block, northeast corner Front Street and Sixth Avenue North.

The Knight Block appears to have been designed to balance the Cass County Bank building two blocks to the east. It is larger, being 75' by 100', but is similarly constructed and detailed. The ground floor elevations have been completely resurfaced with imitation stone, but the upper elevation is largely intact. Irregularly spaced windows are of identical size and treatment, with stone sills and pressed metal hoods. Brick piers divide the long elevations into several vertical sections of unequal width, but appear to have no relation to fire walls. Each pier is capped with a pressed metal finial which breaks through the continuous metal cornice. The original corner entry was chamferred at a 45 degree angle and surmounted with an elaborate gable in which the words "KNIGHT BLOCK" and the date "1889" are prominent.

14. First National Bank/ State Bank of Casselton, northwest corner Front Street and Sixth Avenue North.

After a disastrous fire, the original Casselton National Bank of 1883 was substantially rebuilt using fireproof construction. According to the Sanborn map of 1917, the columns and floors are reinforced concrete, with gypsum walls and a tile roof. Exterior, including portions of the former building, has been surfaced with limestone and brick. The south third of the building, measuring nearly 50' square, is treated somewhat as a pavillion, with symmetrical facades and slightly project-

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14. First National Bank/ State Bank of Casselton (continued).

ing corner bays defined by a giant order of Tuscan pilasters. The pilasters rise from limestone bases through the full two story height to squared capitals which support segments of entablature. At the second floor, the brick wall is rusticated. Window sills and heads are limestone. The entablature supports a projecting limestone cornice and a brick parapet with limestone coping. Extending north is approximately 90' of additional commercial space treated in similar but simpler fashion, except that the ground floor store fronts do not employ the same number of Tuscan pilasters.

Recent remodelling (1982) has replaced all window frames with dark anodized aluminum and tinted glass. A drive-up teller window has been added on the west.

15. Masonic Hall/West Funeral Home, 31 Sixth Avenue North.

The Masonic Block was built in two stages, though both were accomplished during the year 1887. The south half of the building was constructed first, 50' facing west onto Sixth Avenue North and extending 90' toward the rear. It was Victorian Gothic is style with a nearly symmetrical front facade divided into three A-B-A rhythm; the second floor facade retains this treatment. Four brick pilasters divide the upper wall into three panels, each with its own window. The middle window was somewhat larger and each was capped with a pressed metal segmented arch. Each pilaster terminates in a bold pressed metal finial, and between them corbelled brick supports a heavy pressed metal cornice. The central cornice contains the words "MASONIC BLOCK", the date "1887" and a Masonic emblem, all in pressed metal as well.

Shortly after completion, a building of similar design and construction was built immediately to the north. It was also 50' in width and 90' deep. Window shape and ornamentation is the same, though the rhythm is 1-2-1 and there are no intervening pilasters. The pressed metal cornice and finial is identical to the adjacent building. The ground floor front has been completely remodelled and a mansard roof added beneath the second floor window sills. The upper windows have been replaced with smaller aluminum windows and brick infill. Side and rear elevations are of common brick and appear to be essentially intact. Windows have been replaced and partially filled.

16. Frank Lynch Machinery Hall, 51 Sixth Avenue North.

The structure is a remarkable survival. It is wood framed, one story, approximately 25' by 100' with a gable roof running the length of the building. Wall surfacing on the west and north sides is corrugated metal, while the east and south retain the original wood siding. Present roofing material is tar paper. Doors of irregular size and placement provide access to the one interior room. The interior floor is several inches below what has now come to be the exterior grade.

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17. Newton Block/Yaeck & Buchholz Grocery & Dry Goods, 44-48 Sixth Avenue North.

Built in 1887, the Newton Block is similar in style and construction to other Casselton commercial buildings of that year. It is brick bearing wall construction, 50' by 80', with parapet wall on the two street elevations. Brick piers placed at the corners and irregularly along both facades rise through two stories and divide the walls into panels; each pier is capped with a pressed metal finial. Second floor window openings are identical in size and detailing, with stone sills and rectangular pressed metal hoods; some original wood windows remain, while most have been replaced with aluminum sash. Entry to the second floor is provided in the center of the Sixth Avenue facade, which has been remodelled at the ground floor. Cornice treatment is uniform around the two street facades, with the addition of the date "1887" above the central entry.

A recent single story addition has extended the building to the rear property line.

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Before 1900, the architectural profession was both unregulated and poorly defined on the American frontier, but talented designers with a regional practice were available in Fargo. The two most prominent architects of that time were C. N. Daniels and George Hancock. Daniels is known to have designed the original First National Bank (#14, partially burned and now completely remodelled) and the first school building (demolished).

Though no present buildings can be definitely attributed to him, Daniels remained in the area until 1884 and may have done additional work in Casselton.

George Hancock had located in Fargo by 1882 at the beginning of Casselton's building boom. During that period of his career, Hancock was a competent Victorian Gothicist, having come to Dakota Territory from England. Due to the 1893 Fargo Fire, the bulk of Hancock's Victorian work has been destroyed. Fortunately, the Newton (#17) and Masonic Blocks (#15), both of 1887, remain in Casselton to remind us of Fargo's prefire appearance. Other Hancock contributions included the Opera House of 1887 (demolished), its replacement of 1900 (burned 1918), and the People's (now Casselton) State Bank (#6). The Glasgow Block (#9) is attributable to him because of its similarity to documented contemporary buildings in Fargo.

Whether Victorian or in the later Classical Revival Style, many structures are highly decorated with pressed metal ornament, an acceptable substitute in an area of poor quality building stone. Much of this was produced by the Fargo Cornice and Ornament Company, and Casselton retains one of the largest concentrations of this company's product in the region.

Casselton's central business district is remarkable for several reasons. First, its growth from 1878 can be closely associated with major personalities of the Dakota Boom. Men like Hubbard and Tyler gained substantial wealth through the investment of their and other's capital in the young territory. The pattern of their investment and the influence of their taste can be seen in Casselton's many surviving buildings of the period.

Regional architectural talent and examples of local building products are also reflected. Architects Daniels and Hancock were important as early interpreters of architectural fashion for a frontier clientele. Also, the survival of so much locally produced pressed metal ornament is rare.

Casselton's commercial core is an unusually compact and architecturally cohesive reminder of an important period in the history of North Dakota.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



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LEGAL DESCRIPTION

The Casselton Commercial Historic District includes all of Blocks 4 and 5 of the Original Townsite, as well as Lots 1 through 5, Block 14, First Addition to Casselton, plus adjacent street and alley rights-of-way. The legal description is as follows:

Beginning at the southwest corner of Block 1, Original Townsite; then west along the north line of the right-of-way of First Street North to the extended east property lines of Lots 16-18, Block 14, First Addition to Casselton; then south along that line to the north property lines of Lots 4-15, Block 14, First Addition to Casselton; then east along that line to the northwest corner of Lot 5 of that Block; then south along the extended west property line of Lot 5 to the south line of the right-of-way of Front Street; then east along that line to the extended west line of Block 6, Original Townsite; then north along that extended line to the point of beginning.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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