

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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Continuation sheet Bldg. 23

Item number 7, 8, 4, 10

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Bank of Magdalena (#23) (State Register Site #412)

1st & Main St. Magdalena Mex

Description

The Bank of Magdalena (#23) is located at the northeast corner of First and Main. The building is one-story, flat-roofed, and constructed of red brick. The main feature of the building is the ornamental brickwork in the arches and along the cornice of the parapets. Along the corner section of the building, the cornice consists of rows of corbeled brick with a concrete-capped parapet above the "BANK" signs breaking the parapet. The facade facing Main has corbeled arches along the parapet.

The fenestration patterns of the two sections varies somewhat as well. The corner section has its main door in a diagonal corner which is flanked by large plate glass display windows. These windows are topped by off-center, round arch windows. Along the First Street facade are several segmental arch windows of various sizes. The northern section of the building consists of three offices, each with a round arch door flanked by segmental arch, double hung windows topped by transoms. On both facades pilasters break the walls and fenestration.

This building was constructed in two sections. The corner portion was built before 1908, when it appears on the Sanborn Map of that year, as the Bank of Magdalena. By 1913, the year of the next Sanborn Map, the entire building had been constructed.

Photos dating to about 1913 show that the 1913 facade has been little altered. The facades of the bank section have been altered somewhat. Originally the round arches topped windows which were flanked by a door at the corner and a window. The doors and outside windows were topped by segmental arches and had small windows above. The corner was not cut as a diagonal. The interior of the bank has the original pressed metal ceilings. The Bank closed during the Depression and subsequently has been used as a drug store. These alterations probably accompanied the change in use.

In general the Bank of Magdalena remains in good condition. Most of the important original exterior features remain intact. Over the years the building has been well maintained and it is likely this will continue.

Significance

This building is significant primarily as a good example of the Panel Brick Style in Magdalena. It stands out as one of the limited number of noteworthy, well-maintained commercial buildings.

The corner bank building appears on the 1908 Sanborn Map and the remainder of the building on the 1913 map. At the time the bank was constructed it was one of three or four commercial buildings to be constructed of material other than wood or adobe. In subsequent years a few more brick and stone buildings were constructed; however, many of them have been poorly remodeled or are in poor condition. Thus the Bank of Magdalena stands out within this small group.

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Owner: Santiago Chaves
Box 327
Magdalena, NM 87825

Joe Richard Torres
Box 452
Magdalena, NM 87825

Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at the northeast corner of First and Main, proceed north along the east edge of Main for approximately 25 meters to just beyond the north facade; proceed east along this facade for approximately 15 meters to a point just beyond the western-most edge of the building; proceed south along the building for approximately 25 meters to First; proceed west along the north edge of First to the starting point.

UTM Reference: 13/293100/3777250