

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED 1/8/82
DATE ENTERED MAR 5 1982

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC First National Bank Building

AND/OR COMMON The Old Bank Building

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 6th St.
Sixth and Mt. Rushmore Road

--- NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN Custer

--- VICINITY OF Second

STATE South Dakota CODE 46 COUNTY Custer CODE 033

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Joe E. and Doris J. Ledbetter

STREET & NUMBER Box 340

CITY, TOWN Custer VICINITY OF South Dakota STATE

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Custer County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER Mt. Rushmore Road

CITY, TOWN Custer STATE South Dakota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE
--- FEDERAL --- STATE --- COUNTY --- LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The First National Bank building was designed by A. Burnham, an architect from Deadwood, SD, and was completed in 1911. The west, side and south, rear walls are brick, while the east and north walls facing the street are stone, quarried near Hot Springs. A simple rectilinear block with three bays on the main facade, the building has a central entrance. The windows flanking the entrance are large panes of plate glass with oxidized copper frames, over which are transoms of 4 x 4 inch "American prisms" or hammered glass. The two stories of the bank building are separated by a heavy stringcourse. In plan, the banking unit was in the front section of the building, and rental offices were located in the rear of the first floor and throughout the second. Covered with square tin panels, the roof is flat with a slope to the rear. Five chimneys are placed along the brick side wall. Heavily rusticated stonework is offset on the second floor with smooth stone panels over the plate glass windows of the first. Over the central bay is a segmental arch flanked by low stone finials and surmounting the inscription "established 1881". The cornice is composed of long, plain brackets grouped in pairs which alternate between modilion blocks, and banded behind a rounded beltcourse. The interior of the building features an ornate pressed tin ceiling over the original banking room. All of the features are original to the building, which has suffered no significant additions or alterations.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) business
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1911

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

A. Burnham, architect

Mullen & Rourke, Contractors.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Significant in the areas of architecture and local business, the First National Bank is an exceptionally fine commercial structure, which originally housed the First National Bank of Custer. In distinction from many of its contemporaries, the bank's builders "did not start out with the idea of throwing together a lot of material in a cheap, plain structure..." (Custer Co. Chronicle, April 8, 1911) and the building remains a local monument to carefully crafted and well designed work. This straightforward symmetrical composition has three bays along the front facade, which are emphasized through the strong, simple window and door treatment. Against the rusticated three-dimensional stone, the slightly recessed windows and metal casements provide a crisp contrast of solid and void. Unlike many commercial buildings using rusticated stone and heavy details common to the Romanesque style, this structure emphasises rectangular rather than circular shapes and clear incised lines, which give the building a precise elegance. The First National Bank was founded in Custer in 1881 and operated from this site since 1883. The original frame structure was moved to make room for this building. Virtually all the original furnishings of the bank remain intact, and the building stands as it was built to "contribute (its) share towards improving the appearance of our city." (Pioneer -Times, April 8, 1911).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hill City Star, July 23, 1910.
 Hill City News, September 3, 1910.
 Custer County Chronicle, April 8, 1911.
 Denver Times, September 9, October 8, November 19, December 3, 10, 1910.
 Pioneer Times, December 10, 17, 24, 1910.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME Custer, South Dakota QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,3	6,1,2,6,3,0	4,8,4,6,8,2,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The lot lines of the property form the boundaries. The building is located in the East 1/2 of Lot 7, Block 115, Original Town plat of the City of Custer City, Custer County, South Dakota.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

Historical Preservation Center
 University of South Dakota
 Vermillion, S.D. 57069

NAME / TITLE

Doris J. Ledbetter-Owner Technical Editing: Carolyn Torma, John Burrows, HPG

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Box 340

TELEPHONE

(605) 673-4762

HPC: (605) 677-5314

CITY OR TOWN

Custer

STATE

South Dakota

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

James A. Fisher

1/27/82

TITLE

Director, Office of Cultural Preservation

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Entered in the
 National Register

DATE

3/5/82

Melba Byers
 Keeper of the National Register

ATTEST: _____ DATE _____

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION