

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received JAN 12 1983  
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Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page

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24. (N-5629):

A. Property Name: Bank of Newark Building

B. Location and Verbal Boundary Description: The Bank of Newark building is located at 102 East Main Street where Academy Street joins Main Street. The property being nominated includes the building and the property on which it stands. The lot has a frontage of 57.5 feet on Main Street and a depth of 330 feet (Property Tax Map, City of Newark, No. 20, Lot No. 35). (.44 acre).

C. Owner: Dorothy Goberman, R.D. 3, Box 250, C5C, Hockessin, Delaware 19707

D. Property Description:

The Bank of Newark building, c. 1840-50, is a three-story, gable-roofed brick building with a symmetrical five-bay facade and a three-story ell to the rear. Its side walls are laid in seven course common bond, while the facade is laid in stretcher bond with a finer grade brick than that used on the side elevations.

The central facade entrance is composed of a six-panel door framed by a transom and sidelights. All windows on this elevation are six-over-six sash with plan wooden lintels and sills. The shutters on all three floors have been removed. Modifications to the facade include the addition of the portico and massive pilasters sometime after 1929.

With the exception of a few added casements, the windows on the endwalls and rear wing are six-over-six sash like those on the facade. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, a molded box cornice with modillions, and partial gable end returns. Originally two stories in height, the rear ell was raised to three stories during the building's mid-twentieth century renovation. Subsequent brick additions to the rear have filled the open space of the ell giving the building a more rectangular plan.

E. Historical Background:

Used to house the first town bank, which was organized in 1855, this building is thought to have been constructed several years before the bank company came to occupy it. The building furnished space for the bank, as well as a dwelling unit until the early-twentieth century. The bank offices then relocated and the building was used only as a dwelling for several years. By 1915, an insurance office came to occupy part of the building. Today, offices still occupy the first floor, while the upper floors are divided into apartments.

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F. Significance:

The Bank of Newark building is significant as an example of the form of Greek Revival style popular in Newark at the middle of the nineteenth century, and as the headquarters of the first bank in Newark. It is eligible for inclusion on the National Register under Criterion C.

The restrained form of the Greek Revival style found in Newark was most often expressed by the three-story cubic form with molded box cornices and classical portico. Although the portico on this building is not the original, it is in keeping with the style as exhibited on other Greek Revival buildings in town.

Chartered as a State Bank in 1855, the Bank of Newark was the first bank to serve the town. This was an important acquisition for Newark, as this is also the period when industry was establishing a foothold. In 1864, it was converted to a national bank and by the beginning of the twentieth century, the bank company was able to erect its own building.

G. Bibliographical References:

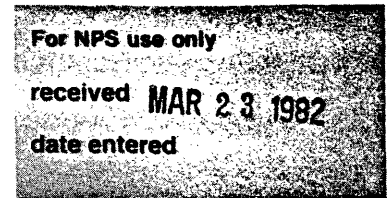
William D. Lewis, "University of Delaware, Ancestors, Friends and Neighbors", Delaware Notes, Vol. 34, No. 1, 1961, p. 203.

Sanborn Insurance Surveys, (Pelham, New York: Sanborn Map Company), 1891, 1907, 1915, 1922, and 1929 Editions for Newark Delaware.

Francis A. Cooch, Little Known History of Newark, Delaware and Its Environs, (Newark, Delaware: The Press of Kells, 1936). p. 22.

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Item number 7

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24. (N-5629):

A. Property Name: Bank of Newark Building

B. Location and Property Boundary Description: The Bank of Newark Building is located at 102 East Main Street, across from the intersection of Main Street and Academy Road. The property being nominated includes this structure and the parcel on which it stands, having a frontage of 57.5 feet and a depth of 330 feet (Property Tax Map, City of Newark, no. 20, lot no. 35.).

C. Owner: Dorothy Goberman, R.D. 3, Box 250, C5C, Hockessin, Delaware 19707

D. Property Description:

The Bank of Newark Building is a three story rectangular structure with two rear wings and a five bay south front facade. The building is constructed of exposed brick laid in American common bond with a 7 to 1 repeat. Six-over-six double hung sash windows appear at the front and side facades, and have exposed wood lintels and sills. Doric pilasters appear at the south front facade and rise from ground level to the roof cornice. The building has a main gable roof, with an interior end chimney, and a boxed cornice with Italianate style brackets at the front facade only. A center entrance at the ground floor front has one bay portico with square column supports, full entablature and a flat roof. The six panel door also has a transom and side lights.

E. Historical Background

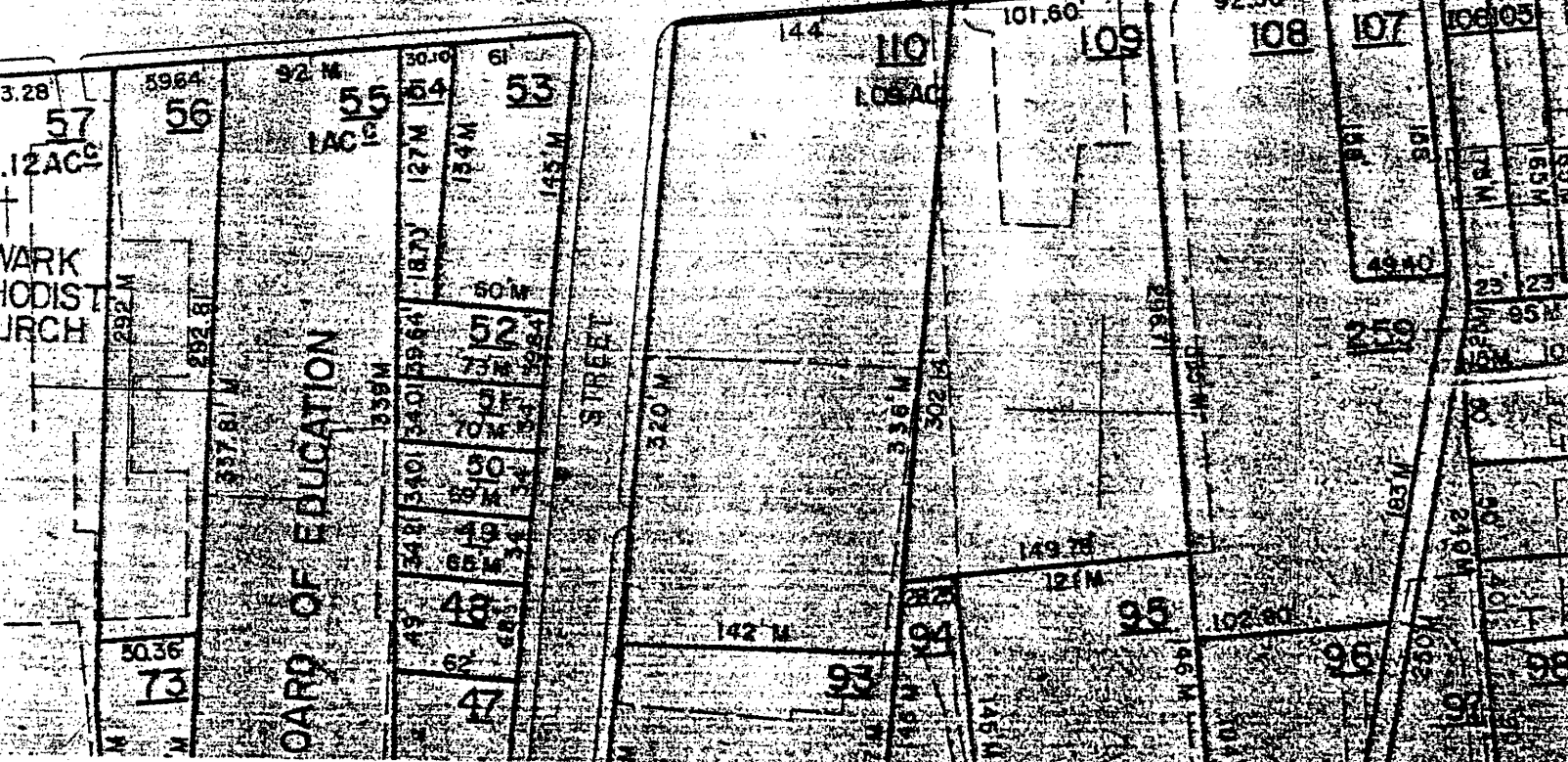
102 East Main Street was probably built during the first half of the nineteenth century, although the existing architectural embellishments (i.e. bracketed cornice and wooden pilasters) date from a later, c. 1870's, period. This building housed the first offices of the National Bank of Newark in the 1850's. Sanborn Insurance Survey Maps dating from the 1890's and early 1900's recorded this 3½ story structure as having a two story wing to the rear, comparable to its present form and appearance. Before 1900, both the bank and a dwelling were located here. By 1907, this building served as a dwelling only. The east interior was later partitioned off at the ground floor level to accommodate an insurance company office. Today the building continues to provide office space on the first floor while the upper floors are used for apartments.

F. Significance:

Probably constructed in the early nineteenth century, this building exhibits both original elements of colonial style architecture and later exterior embellishments which became popular in the 1870's. This structure provided the original offices of the National Bank of Newark. Despite subsequent uses and decorative treatments, it is one of the few buildings on East Main Street whose facade remains essentially unaltered.

N-5629  
Bank of Newark Building

Property no. 2024  
Lot no. 35



N-5629  
Bank of Newark Building

Property no. 24  
Lot no. 35

