Form 10-300 (July 1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE:	
South Carolina	
COUNTY:	
Charleston	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ
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NAME						
COMMON:						
FARMERS' AND EX	CHANGE BANK					
AND/OR HISTORIC:						
LOCATION						
STREET AND NUMBER:		<u> </u>				
14 East Bay Str	eet					
CITY OR TOWN:						\neg
Charleston						
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☐ District X Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure	X Private	ľ	equisition: In Process	X Occupied	Restricted	
Object	□ Both	_	Being Considered	☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work	Unrestricted	.
- Object			-	in progress	□ No	-
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PRESENT USE (Check One or M	· - · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Park				\dashv
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GNIFICANCE	A (-4-)		
PERIOD <i>(Check One or More as</i> Pre-Columbian) h5th Century	16th Century 17th Century	18th Century 19th Century	20th Century
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known) 1853-18	354	
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	ck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	■ Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	☐ Invention	Science	
[X] Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	☐ Music	☐ Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building was designed by Edward C. Jones and Francis D. Lee in 1853 and was completed in 1854. Both of these architects were Charlestonians. The Farmers' and Exchange Bank is perhaps the only example of the Moorish picturesque style that evolved from one aspect of English Regency Architecture.

Obviously Moorish in style, the building has rounded horseshoe arches, reminiscent of Spanish architecture, on a facade made of pale Jersey and somber Connecticut brownstone, producing the striped effect which is typical of many Moorish structures. This building has long been recognized to be of utmost importance to American architecture and its design is thought to have been influenced by illustrations in Washington Irving's The Alhambra, a volume which was published about the same time that the building was constructed. (Albert Simons, FAIA)

Although the style of the building has often been termed "Hindu Gothic," its character is not derived from India, but from Moorish Spain. This is the exotic and romantic world which was popularized by Irving in his aforementioned book with illustrations by F. O. C. Darley. It is by far more likely that this work was accessible to Jones and Lee rather than experience with the English adventures in Hindu Gothic, such as the pavilion at Brighton.

In the architectural survey of Charleston, a jury composed of Dr. William Murtagh, Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places, Professor Bernard Lemann, Tulane University School of Architecture, Mr. Carl Feiss and Mr. Russell Wright, consultants to the city, noted this structure as exceptional. This notation indicates that the building is of the highest architectural design quality, well-proportioned, and architecturally sophisticated. Windows, classical orders or other period designs, chimneys, verandahs, massing, materials, textures, refined detail, and craftsmanship are all elegant and innovative. The structure is to be preserved and protected in situ at all costs.

9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOG	RAPHI	CAL RE	FEREN	CES									
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	tional	Historic F	reserv	ation A	ct of 1966	(Publ	ic Law	I hereby certify that this property is included in the							
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