

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received AUG 1 1984

date entered AUG 30 1984

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Anderson Bank Building

and/or common Anderson Banking Company Main Office

2. Location

street & number 931 Meridian Street N/A not for publication

city, town Anderson N/A vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Madison code 095

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> educational |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial |
| | N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name Anderson Banking Company

street & number 931 Meridian Street

city, town Anderson N/A vicinity of state Indiana 46016

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Madison County Courthouse, Recorder's Office

street & number 19 East 9th Street

city, town Anderson state Indiana 46016

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town state

7. Description

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved | date <u> N/A </u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Anderson Bank Company Building is a seven-story office building located at the corner of 10th and Meridian Streets in downtown Anderson, Indiana. A rectangular-plan structure with a flat roof, the building has a steel-reinforced concrete frame covered with brick and stone veneer in a pier and spandrel configuration. The exterior is decorated with molded terra cotta and carved limestone panels in the Art Deco style popular in the late 1920's, when this building was constructed.

The south facade features limestone and granite facing on the ground floor level, limestone veneer on the second floor and brick veneer on the upper stories and parapet. Fixed metal-frame windows are employed on the ground floor and are protected by a canopy installed in 1963; all other window openings throughout this facade contain large rectangular one-over-one, double-hung windows. Alternating wide and narrow piers rise from the second floor level of the facade to the parapet and serve to delineate the window openings. The spandrel areas below the second and third floor windows of this facade contain stylized limestone carvings, while those below the upper floor windows are embellished with a simple rectangle of corbelled brick. The large piers feature a vertical terra cotta ornament at the seventh floor window level, while additional terra-cotta panels form a horizontal banding just above the seventh-floor window lintels. The parapet features recessed brick panels, limestone trim and a stone cap.

The east facade of the building, like the south facade, features granite and limestone veneer on the ground floor level, limestone veneer on the second floor, and brick on the upper stories and parapet. The carved limestone and molded terra cotta detailing here is also similar to that on the south facade, as is the fenestration. Unlike the south facade, however, this elevation features piers of three different widths arranged to suggest a symmetrical pavilion comprising the northern two-thirds of the facade. The parapet wall over this section is surmounted by a pediment. The main entryway is located in the center of this section, and consists of paired entry doors on the ground floor level surmounted by large, rectangular windows on the second floor. The legend, "Anderson Bank," appears over these windows, and is, itself, surmounted by a foliated limestone label mold. The southern section of this facade is very similar in appearance to the structure's south facade.

The entire rear (west) facade of the building is faced with grey-buff brick identical to that used on the south and east elevations. The terra-cotta detailing just below the parapet is also identical to that found on these other facades. The upper levels of the north facade were also faced with grey-buff brick, but until recently, the lower floors were obscured by an adjacent structure. Since the demolition of that structure, the newly-exposed sections of the north wall have been faced with gray-buff brick to match the rest of the facade.

The interior of the structure includes a two-story banking lobby decorated with marble and ornate molded plaster. Two ranges of square pillars support the lobby's massive ceiling beams; these pillars and the pilasters which flank them feature capitals with dentils and stylized molded ornaments. Recently, a mezzanine was constructed across the east end of this lobby.

Other alterations to the building included the addition of a canopy over the first floor levels of the east and south facades in 1963, and the installation of air conditioner louvers at various points in the south facade sometime after the 1950's. Recent restoration work included the cleaning and tuck-pointing of the exterior masonry, the installation of additional HVAC louvers in the south and east facades, and the replacement of 138 single glazed windows with thermopane units of the same configuration.

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/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Builder: Leslie Colvin

Specific dates 1927-28

Builder/Architect Architect: Vonnegut, Bohn and Mueller

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Anderson Bank Building is significant for its architecture and for its role in the development of commerce and industry in Madison County, Indiana. A seven-story brick veneer structure with stone and terra-cotta detailing, this building is one of the few Art Deco-style structures remaining in the City of Anderson. Since its completion in January, 1928, the building has housed the main offices of the Anderson Banking Company, the largest commercial bank in Madison County and the oldest financial institution extant in the city.

Although the natural gas supply was practically exhausted by 1910, the Anderson Banking Company had, by that time, become one of the area's strongest financial institutions and continued to expand. By 1916 the firm had absorbed one competing bank and reorganized under a state charter. Consolidation with the Anderson Trust Company in 1926 resulted in an increase in assets to almost \$3 million; a final consolidation, this time with the Madison County Trust Company, occurred in 1930. One of the few area banks to survive the Depression, the Anderson Bank has continued to serve the community for over 90 years. For some time this bank has been the largest financial institution in the county, with current assets exceeding \$200 million.

The main office of the Anderson Banking Company, constructed in 1927-28, was designed by the prestigious Indianapolis architectural firm of Vonnegut, Bohn and Mueller, and built by Leslie Colvin, of Indianapolis. One of the few Art Deco-style structures in Anderson, the building features limestone and terra cotta detailing on the exterior, while marble and molded plaster grace the interior. This prominently-sited building is also the tallest older structure in the community, and has long been a local landmark.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Anderson South

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

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|------|---|---------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 0 |
| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

B

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| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

C

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G

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H

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| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification

Starting at the intersection of 10th and Meridian Streets, 140' West to alley, 70' North, 140' East to Meridian Street, 70' South to 10th Street.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| N/A | | | |

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John M. Weber, Senior Vice President & Comptroller

organization Anderson Banking Company date June 10, 1981

street & number 931 Meridian Street telephone 317/644-8861

city or town Anderson state Indiana 46016

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 

title Deputy Director, Dept. of Natural Resources date 7-24-84

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the National Register

date

8/30/84

for  Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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Continuation sheet Anderson Bank Building Item number 9 Page 1

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Portrait and Biographical Record of Madison and Hamilton Counties, Indiana. Chicago: Biographical Publishing Company, 1893.