

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Florida	
COUNTY: Leon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71-2-12-0002	DATE 2/24/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
Union Bank

AND/OR HISTORIC:
First Major Bank in Florida

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
106 South Adams Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Tallahassee

STATE Florida	CODE 12	COUNTY: Leon	CODE 073
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
First Baptist Church

STREET AND NUMBER:
College and Duval

CITY OR TOWN:
Tallahassee

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Leon County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Monroe Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Tallahassee

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
(1) HABS (2) Tallahassee in View

DATE OF SURVEY: 1965 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
(1) Library of Congress (2) City Planning Office

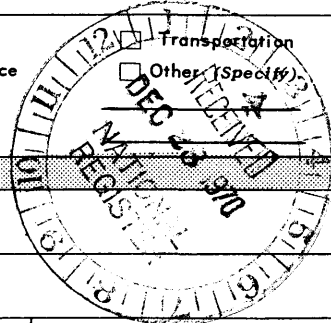
STREET AND NUMBER:
(2) Leon County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:
(1) Washington (2) Tallahassee

STATE:
(1) D.C. (2) Fla.

CODE:
08 & 12

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Florida
COUNTY: Leon
ENTRY NUMBER: 71-2-12-0002
DATE: 2/24/71
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Union Bank, 106 South Adams, Tallahassee, is one of the finest examples of Florida Territorial buildings remaining. The exterior is in its original state. It now houses a bail bond business. After the War Between the States, the building housed the Freedman's Bureau. In earlier days it was a refuge from marauding Indians. It has been used for various other businesses and a church during its long history.

Architectural Information

Prepared by F. Blair Reeves, College of Architecture and Fine Arts, University Florida, Gainesville, Florida

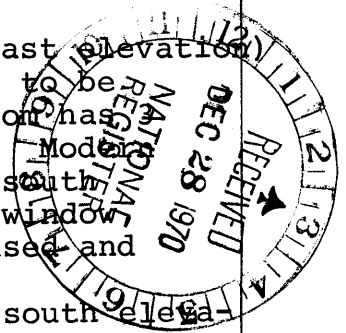
A. General Statement:

1. A one-story brick bearing wall structure of Greco-Roman revival style, notable street (east) facade in triple-arch pattern.
2. Condition of fabric: fair, although modified from original

B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: 31' front x 61', including stoop
2. Foundations: Brick foundation walls.
3. Wall construction: Brick bearing wall, 12" x 24" rustifications scored and joints painted. Base projects 2". East elevation has parapet wall, arched opening above central doorway, arched recess above each of two windows.
4. Porches, stoops: Stoop with concrete floor has steps of granite blocks varying from 8" x 8" x 12'-0". Wood porch appears to be an addition, 8" x 8" wood columns with chamfered edges, plinth in evidence.
5. Chimneys: None in evidence except for stove thimbles in left rear (west) wall.
6. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Entrance doorway (east elevation) has transom and frame remaining (appears to be original) indicates double doors. Transom has major lights with 12 surrounding lights. Modern doorways into two spaces. Doorway into south elevation appears to have original hewn window exceptional pair of cypress doors, mortised and tenoned joints.
 - b. Windows: Double hung 12/12 in east and south elevations; casement windows north elevation, two sash 9 lights in each opening.
7. Roof: Roof inaccessible to many vine coverings. Appears to be flat.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



(continued...)

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | | <u>Banking</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |

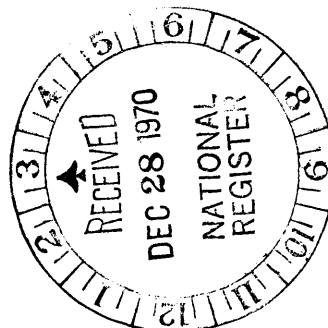
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building housed the first major bank in Florida. Built for William "Money" Williams circa 1830 by Benjamin Chaires. Its history is closely connected with that of the Columns.

The building probably occupies the site of two earlier banks. Their charters were purchased by the Union Bank which was created February 13, 1833, by the Territorial Council and formally opened on January 16, 1835, with John G. Gamble as President. It was capitalized at \$1,000,000 and became the territorial major bank. It was to benefit the planters instead of other commercial interests. Unsound banking practices, the Panic of 1837, and Indian wars lead to its closing in 1843.

The Freedman's Bank was housed here after the Civil War. It has been used as a church and for various businesses since closing as a bank in 1879.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bullard, James, "The Columns, A Local Landmark," Tallahassee Democrat, Aug. 14, 1966.
 Waldron, Ann, "Tallahassee's Columns Survives as Monument of Indian Warfare Refuge," Tampa Tribune, May, 1961.
 Hadd, Donald, "The Columns, 1830-1860," Tallahassee Historical Society, delivered February 11, 1960.
 Henry, E. W., "Old Houses of Tallahassee", Tallahassee Historical Society Annual, February, 1934.
 Knowles, Rev. Joshua, "Methodism in Tallahassee in 1836", from the True Democrat, October 2, 1908.

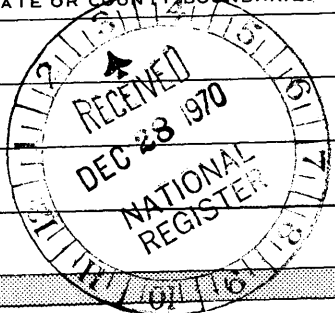
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	30°	26'	29"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	84°	16'	54"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	Part of Lot 183, Original Plan		
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/8 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
J. P. Schuck, Chief, Bureau of Historic Preservation

ORGANIZATION: Department of State DATE: 2/6/70

STREET AND NUMBER:
The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee STATE: Florida CODE: 12

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Robert Williams*

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: December 18, 1970

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

Ernest Allen Connally
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: FEB 24 1971

ATTEST:

William J. Knutson
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: JAN 21 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Florida	
COUNTY	Leon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	11.2.12.0002	DATE
		2/24/71

(Number all entries)

The Union Bank

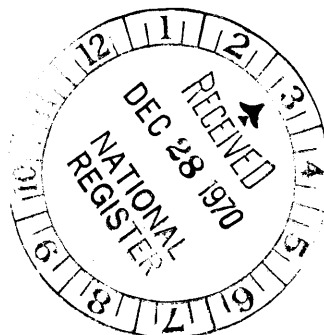
7. Description - page 2

C. Technical Description of Interiors

1. Floor plan: One floor. Interior space divided into two areas. Originally single space with flat round vault ceiling.
2. Stairways: None
3. Flooring: 4" wide pine boards
4. Wall and ceiling finishes: Wall board and plaster on wood lath, flat plaster ceiling obscures vaulted space.
5. Interior doorways and doors: None
6. Trim: Interior shutters paneled to exterior, 2 1/2 folds per side, recessed into jambs. Window trim has heavy entablature, reeded pilasters, plinth blocks, and baseboard. Windows set in splayed openings.
7. Hardware: "U" shaped metal holder for interior shutter bar. Tie rods with square washers extend through building
8. Lighting: Electric
9. Heating: Electric

D. Site Description: Building faces east, alley and parking area south and west; "the Columns" c. 1835 and additions to north.

All efforts have failed to retain this most significant building on its original site. A campaign is now underway to secure, through public subscription, the funds necessary to move the structure to another site within the Tallahassee Historic District.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE
Florida
COUNTY
Leon
FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71.2.12.0002	2/24/71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Union Bank

AND/OR HISTORIC: First major bank in Florida

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

106 South Adams Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Tallahassee

STATE: COUNTY: CODE

Florida

12

Leon

CODE

073

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

Tallahassee Quadrangle 15 minute series

SCALE: 1: 62,500

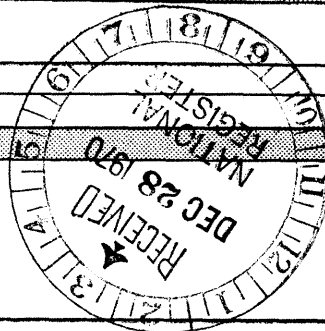
DATE: 1940

4. REQUIREMENTS

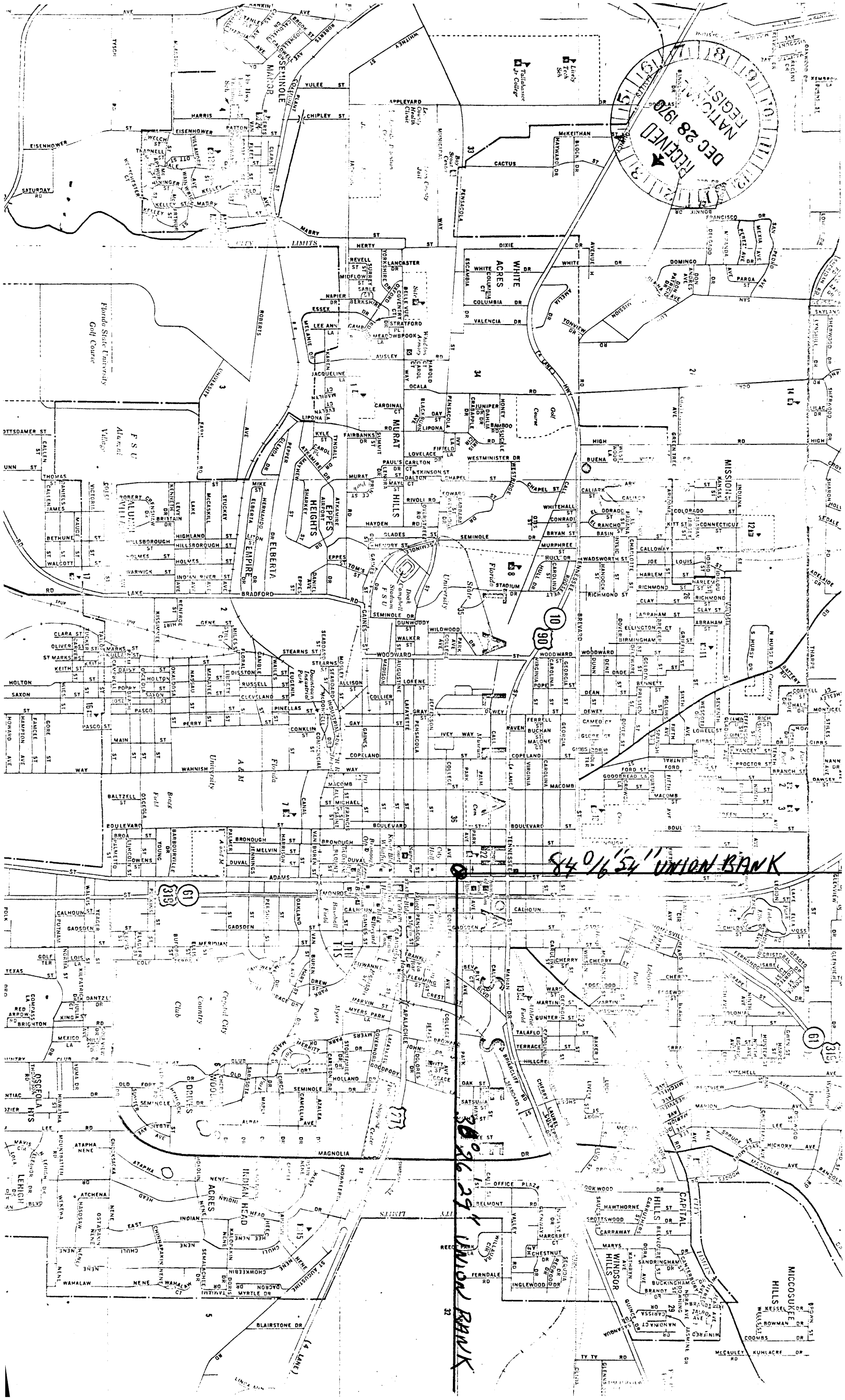
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- Property boundaries where required.
- North arrow.
- Latitude and longitude reference.

Sent new map 1 1/2 minute



RECEIVED
DEC 28 1970
NATIONAL REGISTER



PH000 2321

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Florida
COUNTY: Leon
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE NOV 13 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Union Bank

AND/OR HISTORIC:
First Major Bank in Florida

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
SW corner of Apalachee Parkway and Calhoun Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Tallahassee

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Second

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
012

COUNTY:
Leon

CODE:
073

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Scheduled for restoration and will be used as state government office space.</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Trustees of the Internal Improvement

STREET AND NUMBER:
Elliott Building, Monroe Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Tallahassee

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
012

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Leon County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
South Monroe Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Tallahassee

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
012

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1965 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

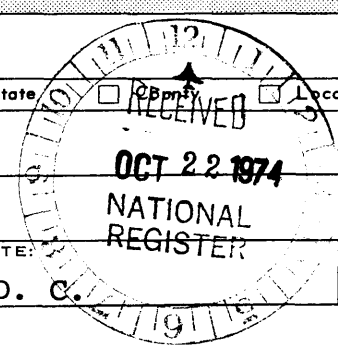
STATE:
D. C.

CODE:
011

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Florida
COUNTY: Leon

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER: 1074
DATE: NOV 13 1974



7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Union Bank Building possesses certain very pronounced characteristics of the Federal style. Since the Federal style emerged from the Georgian (Late) and into the Greek Revival it reflects characteristics commonly associated with both. The Union Bank has a balanced facade rendered more severely classical through the use of stucco over brick. The effect of compact solidity is further heightened by hiding the roof behind a balustrade or parapet placed over the eaves. All of this is softened by the use of curved shapes, these taking the form of elliptical fanlights (blind niches here) over the doorway and flanking windows. Projecting from the front of the building was the small classical porch (removed during relocation) typical of the Federal style. The recessed doorway with framing pilasters and projecting entablature is more typical of the Classic Revival, as is the cornice at the roofline.

The Florida House Journal, 1841-42 revealed that the original contract for construction of the building specified exterior dimensions of 33 foot frontage and 51 foot depth, the same dimensions recorded by the Historic American Buildings Survey. The banking room, according to the same account, was to be 28 feet by 30 feet and the president's room 14 feet by 18½ feet. The third room was to be a vault for books and papers. The rooms were to be floored with marble with granite for steps, sills and coping. Wall construction is brick bearing walls with scored rustication and painted joints. The main entrance doorway in the north elevation has the original transom and frame remaining indicating the existence of double doors originally. The transom has three major lights with 12 surrounding lights. The doorway into the east elevation appears to have the original hewn surround, cypress doors and mortised and tenoned joints. Windows are double-hung sash, 12 over 12 lights on the north and east elevations and casement on the west elevation. The roof is flat.

Although the structure did suffer some minor damage and alteration during relocation, it is stable at the present time, and scheduled for complete restoration.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian;	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1841

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Banking</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

In 1821, when Florida became a U. S. territory, and for nearly ten years thereafter, it had no banks of its own. Business was transacted in hard money when possible, but relied to great extent on bank notes from outside the territory, and on script of well-known merchants. The readily apparent disadvantage of this system was that it drained any sort of money out of Florida, and drove prices up. Reacting to numerous petitions, the Florida Legislature sought to remedy this deficiency by creating a territorial bank, the Bank of Florida, in 1828. The act had to be passed over Governor DuVal's veto, because the governor felt that Florida development was being paralyzed by lack of funds, and he could not see how simply creating a bank to handle existing money would help. In 1829 the legislature repassed the charter of this same bank (again over DuVal's veto), and William Williams presided over the new institution until 1833. Not satisfied with one bank, the legislature granted a charter to the Central Bank of Florida in 1832. This bank was headed by Benjamin Chaires when it became operative in 1833, and it bought the Bank of Florida's charter in the same year. Gov. DuVal cared for neither of these institutions because they served primarily the merchants instead of the planters. It was thought that if an institution were created that would float bonds nationally and internationally that money would pour into the Floridas to stimulate and expand the planter economy, benefitting the whole territory. Responding to DuVal's urging in 1833, the legislature chartered a planter's bank, the Union Bank, which opened for business in 1835 with John G. Gamble as president.

Lot 183, the original site of the Union Bank Building, was purchased by William "Money" Williams from the Tallahassee City Commission in 1829 while he was operating a private banking business, presumably from his two-story brick residence on Monroe Street. Before the middle of 1831, Williams had moved from his dwelling on Monroe Street to a new residence and banking house on Lot 183 at the southwest corner of Adams and Park Streets, the house now known as the Columns. Williams also owned Lot 184, immediately to the west and he sold both lots to the newly formed Central Bank of Florida for \$15,000 in 1833.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

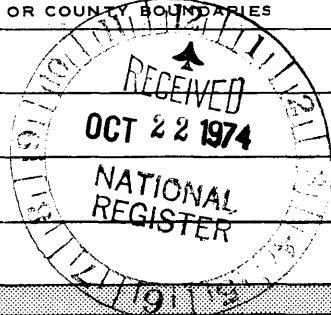
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		N30° 26 ' 15 "	W84° 16 ' 48 "	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **less than one**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Rogers Harlan, Graduate Assitant
Diane D. Greer, Historic Sites Specialist**

ORGANIZATION: **Div. of Archives, History & Records Mgt.** DATE: **Sept., 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Department of State, The Capitol**

CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **012**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Robert Williams*
 Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: October 14, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

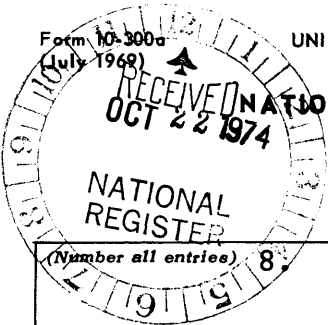
J. R. Martensen
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 11/13/74

ATTEST:
Charles H. ...
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 11-8-74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Florida
COUNTY	Leon
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	NOV 13 1974

8. Significance

In 1838, the Union Bank bought the Central Bank's charter. In 1840, the Union Bank still occupied part of the Columns building. In 1841, "In compliance with the injunction of the Stockholders, the Board of Directors (of the Union Bank) have contracted for the building of a fire proof banking house, on the same lot with the present banking house (the Columns)." This quote taken from the Florida House Journal 1841-42 goes on to state interior dimensions, use of rooms, materials to be used, etc. The building was contracted to be completed by March 25, 1841. At this time Col. Williams was still on the Board of Directors and John G. Gamble still president. Ownership and control of the Union Bank changed hands several times and the period of 1869-1879 was the last during which the bank building played an historic part in Florida's financial history.

The Union Bank, which had occupied its original site (south portion of Lot 183 on the Old Plan of the City of Tallahassee) since its construction in 1841 had served a variety of uses in modern times, including a stationers office, a beauty shop, drapers and a bail-bond office, all between 1928 and 1972. In early 1972, the owners of the property, with another intended use planned, offered both the Union Bank and the Columns to the community at large if they would move it before a certain date. Otherwise, the building would be razed.

In an effort to save Florida's oldest banking establishment and one of the few Federal style buildings in the State, ownership of the Union Bank was transferred to the State of Florida and arrangements were made to relocate the building to its present site on the southeast corner of the Apalachee Parkway (Highway 27) and Calhoun Street. The building, as presently situated, occupies a prominent site one block east of Florida's Historic Capitol well within the capitol complex. It will, when restored, be utilized as government offices for the State of Florida.

Although the original site of both the Union Bank and the Columns was historically important, the decision was made that the buildings should be saved at any cost, including relocation, an action which is normally looked upon as a last resort by those officially responsible for preservation within the State. Not only was the move supported by officials at the State level, but by the general citizenry of Tallahassee. The bank had long served as a landmark and there was strong public sentiment in favor of saving the building--public sentiment being one of the greatest boons to historic preservation at the local level.

(con't.)

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

(Continuation Sheet)

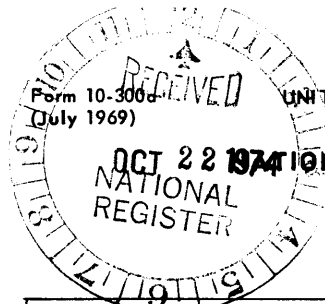
STATE Florida
COUNTY Leon
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER NOV 13 1974 E

(Number all entries) 8. Significance

-3-

Resubmission of the Union Bank nomination to the National Register of Historic Places is in no way an attempt to diminish the importance of the original site of the structure (now a paved parking lot) or to give additional importance to the new site. It is rather an attempt to give the appropriate recognition to a building which has been documented as one of the oldest and most historically significant buildings in Florida's capitol city. Moreover, as previously stated, it is one of the few surviving examples of the architecture of the Federal period to be seen in the State. If it is thought that 1841 is late for Federal style architecture, the objection loses validity when one reflects that Tallahassee had more the character of a small frontier town than that of a sophisticated Eastern city sensitive to the latest vogue. Developers, coaxing a capital from the wilderness, built in accordance with city architecture as they had last seen it.





Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Florida	
COUNTY	Leon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		NOV 13 1974

(Number all entries) 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Florida	
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-2-

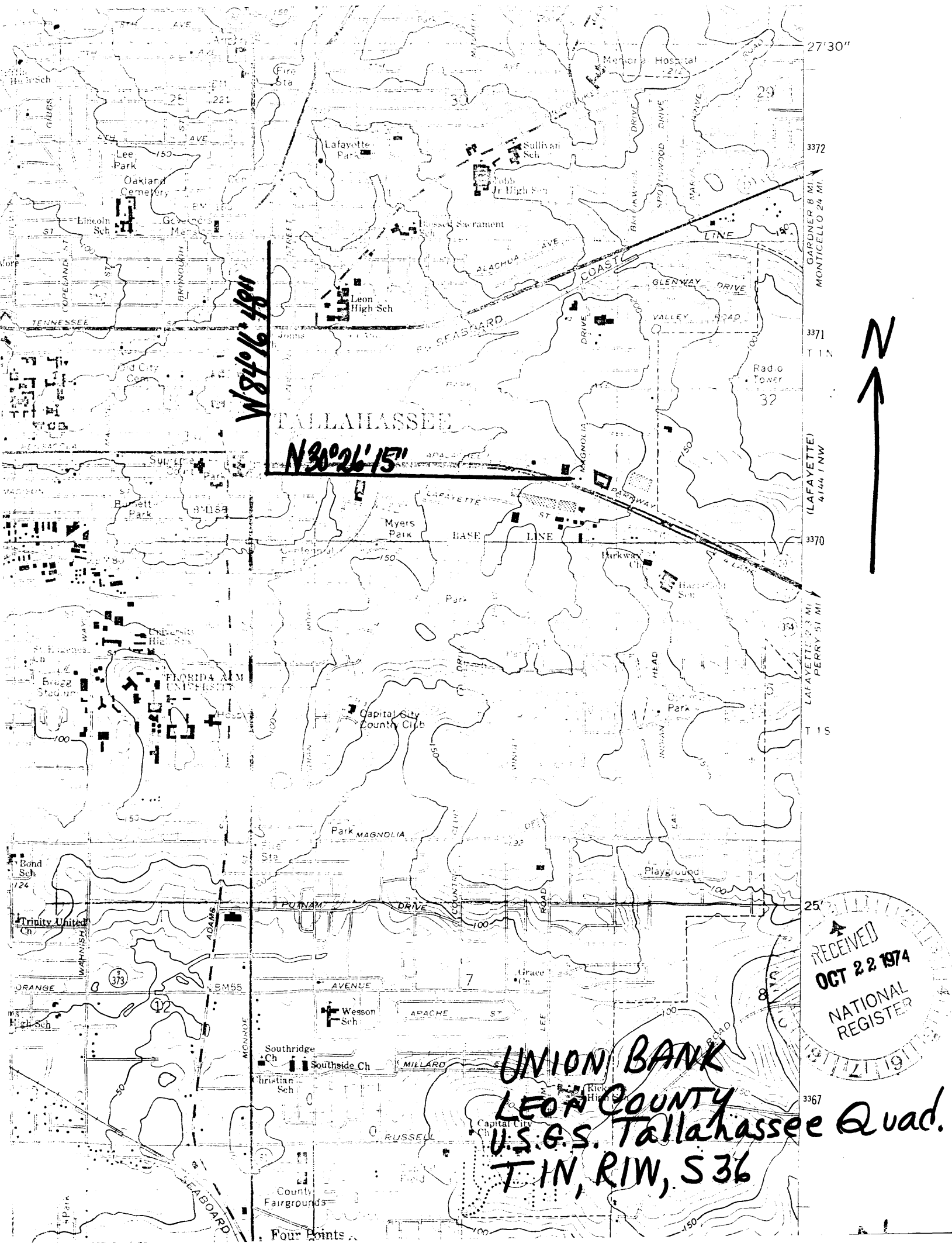
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W 84° 16' 49"

N 30° 26' 15"



UNION BANK
LEON COUNTY
U.S.G.S. Tallahassee Quad.
T 1 N, R 1 W, S 36