

MINNESOTA HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

HISTORIC NAME: First National Bank

COUNTY: Lyon

CURRENT NAME:

CITY/TWP.: Tracy

LEGAL DESC.: A tract of land, 25 feet by 82 feet, Lots Twelve (12), Thirteen (13), Fourteen (14) and Fifteen (15), Block Eight (8), Tracy, MN
 ADDRESS: 101 - 3rd Street
 Original Plat of the City of Tracy, described as follows: Commencing at the Southeast corner of said Lot Fifteen (15); running (Cont. on next page)

CLASSIFICATION:	CONDITION:	SIGNIFICANCE:	THEME/S:
Building <u>X</u>	Excellent <u>X</u>	Local <u>X</u>	Primary <u>Architecture</u>
Structure _____	Good _____	State _____	Secondary <u>Commerce</u>
Object _____	Fair _____	National _____	Others _____
District _____	Deteriorated _____		

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Yes X No _____ Restricted X
 VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD: Yes X No _____
 OCCUPIED: Yes X No _____

PRESENT USE:
 1st floor: Commercial
 2nd floor: Private residential

DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1897

ORIGINAL USE: Bank

ORIGINAL OWNER: First National Bank

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Mark Donaldson
 101 - 3rd Street
 Tracy, MN

ACREAGE: Less than one acre X

LOCAL CONTACT/ORG.: Lyon County Historical Society
 Courthouse, Marshall, MN 56258

UTM REFERENCE:
 Tracy East Quad.

FORM PREPARED BY: Susan Roth
 DATE: December 1980

15/290780/4900820

DESCRIPTION:

The First National Bank is located at the intersection of 3rd and south streets in Tracy's business district. It is a two-story rectangular Romanesque structure of rusticated Sioux Quartzite quarried at Jasper Stone Company and Quarry in nearby Rock County (placed on the National Register in January, 1978). Ornamentation, although restrained, includes a second story frieze of a polychromatic checkerboard design, a continuous stone sill which runs the course of the second story, and a repetitive series of arches with a radiating voussoir pattern arc the second story windows and over two large storefront windows at the front. Windows on the second story retain original sash. Minor alterations have been made to the entrance and original plate and stained glass has been removed from first story windows. The building is currently used for residential and commercial purposes; the second story, once office space, is being converted to an apartment while the first floor houses a real estate/travel agency. Care is being taken to preserve the exterior facade.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The First National Bank at Tracy is significant for its utilization of a native southwest Minnesota building material in a well articulated Romanesque design. In 1897 the First National Bank (formerly the First State Bank) began construction of a new bank building. Local tradition indicates that the large, rough cut Sioux quartzite block, were brought to Tracy by railroad car and cut on the construction site by itinerant stone cutters. Until April, 1931, when the bank suspended operations, First National was the oldest operating bank in Lyon County, having been founded in 1891. The bank never re-opened and the building has since been used for a variety of commercial purposes. The Bank's strong Romanesque detailing, its well preserved condition, and its prime location at the intersection of Tracy's commercial district and the Chicago & North Western Railroad tracks make it an architecturally distinctive and locally significant building.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- "Donaldson to put new life in 1895 Tracy bank," Tracy Headlight-Herald. 4 October 1979.
- Rose, Arthur P. An Illustrated History of Lyon County, Minnesota. Marshall: Northern History Publishing Company, 1912.
- Starr, Merrill. Tracy's First Hundred Years. (Tracy?): Privately published, 1971.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION - Cont.

thence in a Northeasterly direction along the Northwesterly side of Third Street a distance of 25 feet; thence in a Northwesterly direction parallel to South Street, also referred to as Front Street, a distance of 82 feet; thence in a Southwesterly direction parallel to Third Street a distance of 25 feet; thence in a Southeasterly direction along the Northeasterly side of South Street to the point of beginning. Subject to alley rights as described in the deed recorded in Book X of Deeds, page 72, Lyon County, Minnesota.

