

80002130

Historic Name: Clements State Bank Building

Common Name:

Owner's Name and Address: Carl V. Jensen
Clements, Minnesota 56224

County: Redwood

Community: Clements

Address/Legal Desc.:
First and Pine Streets

DEC 12 1978

Classification:

Building **Structure** _____ **Object** _____ **District** _____

Acreage:
Less than one acre

Condition:

Excellent _____ **Good** **Fair** _____ **Deteriorated** _____

Verbal Boundary Desc.:
Clements Plat
E 1/2 Lot 12
Block 4

Open to the Public:

Yes **No** _____
During business hours

Visible from the road:

Yes **No** _____

Occupied:

Yes **No** _____

Present Use:
Offices

History:

Date Constructed: 1902 **Original Owner:** State Bank

Architect/Builder: Unknown **Original Use:** Bank

UIM Reference:
15/336460/4915980
Clements Quad. 7.5

Description: (Joint Statement with Milroy State Bank)

The nearly identical Milroy State Bank and Clements State Bank buildings, respectively located in Milroy and Clements, are both situated on a main street corner lot one block away from the railroad. Both are constructed of the patterned and polychromed brick and stone combination characteristic of area masonry commercial buildings of the period. Detailing occurs on the two street facades of each which meet at a diagonal corner facing the street intersection. Red brick (though to be from the A.C. Ochs plant in Springfield) used in these facades is laid in a stretcher bond; rock-faced stone is used for the water table and for continuous sills on both the first and second stories. A one-story projecting entrance pavillion is flanked by tapered rectangular columns of brick and surmounted by an arch. The arch is repeated on several first level windows; three on the side are surmounted by a (see continuation sheet)

Level of Significance:

Local _____

State _____

Nation _____

Status:

Survey	Date
Local	_____
State	_____
Nat'l. Reg.	_____
Nat'l. Land.	_____
HABS/HAER	_____

Significance: (Joint statement with Milroy State Bank)

The two banks were constructed in 1902 in two of six newly platted communities on the Minnesota Western branch of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. Commercial districts in these towns were constructed quickly -- often before residential areas -- after the Western Town Lot Company had held a lot auction. The Company even designated, in at least one instance, specific business types for specific lots. Lines of elevators and lumber yards often built in several of the towns at once.

Bidders from Springfield (located on the older Winona and St. Peter in adjoining Brown County) are mentioned repeatedly in accounts of lot sales in both Milroy and Clements. Of the eight incorporators of each bank, five are identical, and the majority are from Springfield. Two years earlier, the State Bank of Springfield had erected a building with fenestration identical to that of the two Redwood County buildings (type of brick and details are different). With many of the same investors, it seems likely that the plan of this bank was adapted for local contractors and materials for the new Redwood County townsites.

(see continuation sheet)

Theme/s:

Primary Settlement

Secondary _____

Other _____

Local Contact/Org.:

Prepared by and date:
Dennis A. Gimmestad
September 1978

Description:

linking, vertically-laid band of brick. A row of patterned brick is above the lintels of the second story. The cornice on the Milroy building remains intact; the one on the Clements building has been removed.

Both buildings originally contained office/retail space on the basement level; the outside stairway of the Milroy building has been closed off. Other modifications -- largely changes in window framing -- have not altered the basic fabric of the buildings.

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Significance:

The Milroy and Clements State Bank buildings are original townsite structures which evidence an instance in which outside interests -- in this case a group of businessmen from a nearby town -- acted to establish the commercial operations of a series of towns platted by the railroad at the turn of the century.