

MINNESOTA HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

MAR 11 1982

HISTORIC NAME: First State Bank COUNTY: Stearns
 CURRENT NAME: Dave's Realty CITY/TWP.: St. Joseph
 LEGAL DESC.: West 24½' of the south 75', Lot 10, ADDRESS:
 Block 9, original town 23 Minnesota Street West

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

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Yes x No _____ Restricted _____ PRESENT USE:
 VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD: Yes x No _____ Office and jewelry repair
 OCCUPIED: Yes x No _____

DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1918 ORIGINAL USE: Bank
 ORIGINAL OWNER: First State Bank of St. Joseph ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Dave's Realty, Inc. St. Joseph, MN	ACREAGE: Less than one acre <u>x</u>
LOCAL CONTACT/ORG.: N/A	UTM REFERENCE: 15 / 397105 / 5046325 St. Joseph, MN Quad. 7.5
FORM PREPARED BY: Thomas Harvey	
DATE: October, 1980	

DESCRIPTION:

The First State Bank of St. Joseph is a small, one-story commercial building of a design reminiscent of the Egyptian Revival style of architecture. It faces the town's main business street. The main portion of the building is of simple brick construction, painted on the rear and alley sides of the structure. The architectural design is invested almost entirely in the front facade. Terra cotta panels predominate and define an inverted "U" of polychrome brick. The generally brown brick has green, yellow and red mixed in, and is laid in a pattern of stretcher-several headers-stretcher. Smooth terra cotta outlines the brickwork. Decorative tan-colored terra cotta panels in geometric shapes are highlighted in blue and yellow. The terra cotta forms a "First State Bank" sign above the door. The recessed central entry is flanked by two tapering, polygonal columns. The single door is below a central window flanked by narrow sidelights. The terra cotta cornice completes the design.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The First State Bank is significant for its sophisticated terra cotta front facade. The design leans toward the Egyptian Revival style, an architectural style rarely seen in Minnesota's commercial buildings. The decorative pattern of colored brick, the color and geometry of the terra cotta panels, the tapered polygonal columns flanking the central entrance, and the flared cornice add up to an important esthetic contribution to St. Joseph's central business street. The bank interior has been modernized, but only an aluminum door and attached sign alter the original appearance of the facade.