

634

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL
REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Newport National Bank

other names/site number N-470

2. Location

street & number 100 East Market St. not for publication n/a
city or town Newport, Christiana Hundred vicinity n/a
state Delaware code DE county New Castle code 003
zip code 19804

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] State Historic Preservation Officer 6/1/93
Signature of certifying official Date

Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, Hall of Records, P.O. Box 1401, Dover, DE 19903
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====
4. National Park Service Certification
=====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the
National Register

See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the
National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain): _____

Delores Byem 7/14/93

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

=====
5. Classification
=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

| Contributing | Noncontributing |
|--------------|---------------------|
| <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> buildings |
| <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> sites |
| <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> structures |
| <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> objects |
| <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> Total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) Historic & Architectural Resources of Newport, DE

=====
6. Function or Use
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Cat: <u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u> | Sub: <u>Financial institution</u> |
| <u>DOMESTIC</u> | <u>Single dwelling</u> |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Cat: <u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u> | Sub: <u>Business</u> |
| <u>DOMESTIC</u> | <u>Multiple dwelling</u> |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

=====
7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS;
Colonial Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
roof METAL; Tin
walls BRICK

other WOOD

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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8. Statement of Significance
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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE

Period of Significance 1864-1929

Significant Dates 1864

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

| | Zone | Easting | Northing | Zone | Easting | Northing |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------|----------------|------|---------|----------|
| 1 | <u>18</u> | <u>447830</u> | <u>4395940</u> | 3 | _____ | _____ |
| 2 | _____ | _____ | _____ | 4 | _____ | _____ |
| | <u>See continuation sheet.</u> | | | | | |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title Peter E. Kurtze, Architectural Historian

organization _____ date April 30, 1992

street & number 109 Brandon Road telephone (410) 296-7538

city or town Baltimore state MD zip code 21212

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Newport National Bank
name of property
New Castle County, Delaware
county and State
Historic and Architectural
Resources of Newport, Delaware
name of multiple property listing
=====

Description:

The Newport National Bank is five bays wide, three irregular bays deep, 2½ stories in height with a gable roof. It is located on the southeast corner of East Market and Marshall streets; the principal facade faces north, toward East Market Street. The building is set back a short distance from the sidewalk, behind a small lawn.

The building was constructed in two principal stages: the five-bay rectangular main block was built in 1864 to house the Newport National Bank and provide living quarters for its cashier. A lower, two-story service ell was included in the original construction, projecting from the eastern portion of the south elevation. In 1927, the building experienced a campaign of renovation and expansion in which the banking space was reconfigured, the lower portion of the north facade was refaced, and the rear ell was broadened and extended to create four rental apartments.

The building is constructed of brick laid in running bond. A typical brick from the original period measures 8½" long, 4" wide, and 2" high; mortar joints average ½" wide. The ground-floor facade, installed in the 1927 remodeling, comprises pressed bricks measuring 8" long, 3-5/8" wide, and 2¼" high, laid with fine ¼" joints. The building rests on a brick foundation.

As originally built, the north facade was five bays wide; it retains this configuration on the second story. The 1927 remodeling resulted in a symmetrical three-bay composition on the ground floor, with a short flight of stone steps leading to a central entrance comprising double-leaf glazed doors surmounted by a transom, set within a Classical surround with flanking pilasters supporting a plain frieze and shallow pediment. The flanking bays are defined by large, nearly square openings with stone sills, holding a tripartite composition of one-over-one sash above paneled spandrels. Pintels survive at the edges of these openings, indicating the attachment of security grilles. A narrow belt course marks the transition to the upper story, whose five bays hold two-over-two sash with plain wooden lintels and sills. A bold bracketed cornice caps the facade and returns at the corners. A pair of arch-headed dormers with two-over-two sash are located on the north slope of the metal-clad roof.

Both gable end elevations of the main block are three irregular bays wide, with two-over-two sash on the first and second stories. The brickwork shows some alteration of the original fenestration pattern on the ground floor of the east end and second story of the west, probably associated with the 1927 renovations.

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Section 7 Page 2

Newport National Bank
name of property
New Castle County, Delaware
county and State
Historic and Architectural
Resources of Newport, Delaware
name of multiple property listing

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A pair of chimneys linked by a parapet rises from each gable peak, above a double two-over-two window lighting the attic. The roofline is decorated with a molded rakeboard.

A lower, two-story wing spans the full width of main block on the south, and extends a distance of four bays. This section, added in 1927, comprises four apartments. Physical evidence indicates that it incorporates an original service ell which protruded from the east section of the south elevation. The north gable end of this wing is spanned by a two-story covered porch, with brick columns and a simple balustrade. The side elevations of the wing are capped with a boxed cornice whose design reflects a simplified version of the original cornice on the main block.

The property retains sections of Victorian period iron fencing. Also on the property, located southeast of the main building, is a four-bay garage of brick and frame construction on a concrete block foundation, which does not contribute to the significance of the resource.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 1

Newport National Bank
name of property
New Castle County, Delaware
county and State
Historic and Architectural
Resources of Newport, Delaware
name of multiple property listing

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Statement of Significance:

The Newport National Bank is significant for its association with the 19th- and early 20th century commercial development of Newport, and for its architecture, as an example of a type of commercial building which characterized smaller towns during the period.

The Newport National Bank was chartered March 25, 1865. It absorbed the Real Estate Bank of Newport, which had been established in 1859, and had been headquartered at 7-9 East Market Street (see N-468). A new building had been constructed at the southeast corner of Market and Marshall streets during the previous year for the purpose of housing the newly-organized bank.

A photograph taken prior to the 1927 alterations shows that, as originally constructed, the principal facade of the 2½ story brick combined commercial/residential building was five bays wide, with entrances located in the central and westernmost bays on the ground story, and two-over-two windows in the remaining bays. The bank was located in the western section of the building, with a separate entrance and specific functional rooms. Its combined commercial/residential functions reflected bank rules which required that the cashier and family reside in the building as a security measure.

Although it served a locally prominent commercial function, the bank building is essentially residential in form, scale, and detailing. Commercial buildings in cities and towns from the 18th through the early 19th century were often essentially indistinguishable from their residential counterparts. By the second quarter of the 19th century, specifically commercial building types began to emerge in larger cities, generally characterized by large display windows framed by masonry piers and lintels. A series of technological developments at mid-century, including plate glass and cast iron, contributed to further divergence between commercial forms and residential types. Even through the Civil War era, however, commercial enterprises in smaller towns sometimes continued to locate in buildings which were outwardly similar to residential structures. The Newport National Bank is an example of this increasingly rare building type.

In 1927, the building was altered in response to expanding business. The ground-floor facade was refaced with pressed brick, and large tripartite sash windows were installed, resulting in the present fenestration. The entire ground floor was taken over for banking purposes; a new vault and safe deposit boxes were installed, and meeting and business rooms constructed. Apartments were created in the upper stories; the expansion of the original rear service wing most likely

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Section 8 Page 2

Newport National Bank
name of property
New Castle County, Delaware
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Resources of Newport, Delaware
name of multiple property listing

took place at this time. The bank occupied the former Women's Christian Temperance Union reading room and community center building across the street (no longer extant) while the alterations were in progress, and reopened on March 12, 1927.

The Newport National Bank was a casualty of the Great Depression: it was ordered closed on November 18, 1929, and the building stood vacant for several years until it was acquired in 1936 by George F. Jones and reopened as the Kenlyn Apartments. It currently contains apartments and office space. Some of the interior features of the bank, including a teller's counter and cage, have been incorporated into the interior of the Newport Town Hall.

Resources reflecting Newport's 19th- and early 20th-century commercial development are rare. The construction of a major limited-access elevated highway through the town in the 1970s destroyed most of Newport's historic commercial district.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 1

Newport National Bank
name of property
New Castle County, Delaware
county and State
Historic and Architectural
Resources of Newport, Delaware
name of multiple property listing

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Major Bibliographical References:

Johnson, Ella Weldin. Story of Newport: a Square Little Town in the State of Delaware. Wilmington, DE: Paragon Press, 1963.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of the State of Delaware, 1609-1888. 2 Vols. Philadelphia: L. J. Richards & Co., 1888.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 1

Newport National Bank
name of property
New Castle County, Delaware
county and State
Historic and Architectural
Resources of Newport, Delaware
name of multiple property listing

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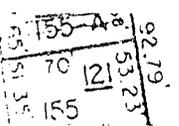
Geographical Data:

Verbal boundary description: The nominated property includes all of that parcel designated 20-001.00-239 on the Property Map of New Castle County, Delaware, and further indicated by the broken line on the section of the property map which accompanies this nomination.

Boundary justification: The boundaries described above were selected to encompass the single town lot historically associated with the resource.



N-470
 Newport National Bank, 100 E. Market St.
 Historic & Architectural Resources of
 Newport, Delaware
 Source: New Castle County Tax Map
 Scale: 1"=100'



E 446 000

N 624 000