**Form 10-300**

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)**

1. **NAME**
   - **COMMON:** Old Bank Building
   - **AND/OR HISTORIC:** Catlettsburg National Bank

2. **LOCATION**
   - **STREET AND NUMBER:** 110 26th Street
   - **CITY OR TOWN:** Catlettsburg
   - **STATE:** Kentucky

3. **CLASSIFICATION**
   - **CATEGORY**
     - (Check One)
     - **District**
     - **Site**
     - **Structure**
     - **Object**
   - **OWNERSHIP**
     - **Public**
     - **Private**
     - **Both**
   - **STABILITY**
     - **Occupied**
     - **Unoccupied**
     - **Preservation work in progress**
   - **ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC**
     - **Yes:**
     - **No:**
     - **Vacant**

4. **OWNER OF PROPERTY**
   - **OWNER'S NAME:** D. H. Donahoe, M.D.
   - **STREET AND NUMBER:** Sunset Hill
   - **CITY OR TOWN:** Catlettsburg

5. **LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**
   - **COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:** Boyd County Court House

6. **REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**
   - **TITLE OF SURVEY:** Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky
   - **DATE OF SURVEY:**
   - **DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:**
     - **Kentucky Heritage Commission**
     - **STREET AND NUMBER:** 401 Wapping Street
     - **CITY OR TOWN:** Frankfort

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**SEE INSTRUCTIONS**
The Old Bank Building, late Victorian in style, was built by the Catlettsburg National Bank in 1885. Its outer dimensions are 33 feet by 100 feet. The stone walls of its basement are of pressed brick laid in diamond cement. Two stone lions flank the stone steps that lead to the recessed main door. The door is topped by a glass transom and framed by a brick archway. The windows were originally much higher; they extended to the arched brick lintels, and the pairs of windows at the extreme right and left of the enclosed photograph were originally single windows, with stained glass at the tops. The roofing material, Pennsylvania slate, is attractively arranged in a pattern consisting of curved and rectangular pieces. The ornate roof has dormers, spires, a minaret, and wooden embellishments.

In The Big Sandy Valley, William Ely described the interior of the Old Bank Building as it appeared in 1887, when the Bank was "for beauty of architectural design, substantiality of construction, convenience of internal and external arrangements, and general appearance...equal to the finest buildings for similar purposes in the great cities of the country. It (was) altogether the handsomest building in Catlettsburg..." The cellar, which extends the whole length of the building, was as light and dry as the upper floors. The bank vault rested on the bed-rock of the basement. The remaining space was available for "confectionery, cigar stands, barber shops, or other light mechanical or mercantile business." On the main floor, the lobby was large enough to hold a hundred or more persons in comfort. Opposite the front door was a carved wood counter which extended to the ceiling. Behind the counter was a large counting room where the officers and employees of the bank worked at their desks and money-tables. The rest of the space was reserved for other offices of the bank.

In 1916 the structure was sold to the Farmers and Merchants Bank. It was used for medical and dental offices for forty years. Although it has been flooded many times, and was almost completely submerged in 1937, the structure has been kept in good repair; the condition of the interior is excellent, but no traces of the original use remain. Presently the building is vacant, but the owner has plans for adaptive use.
The Old Bank Building was originally the Catlettsburg National Bank, which was the principal financial institution in Catlettsburg at a time when that city was the commercial center of eastern Kentucky and, in particular, the focal point of the very large timber trade of the Big Sandy Valley. At times in the spring of the years around 1900, daily clearings of this bank exceeded one million dollars in specie.

Built in 1885, it is late Victorian in style. Originally it had larger windows that were trimmed with stained glass. It is constructed of brick, with a high stone foundation, and has an ornate slate roof with dormers, spires, a minaret and wooden embellishments.

In 1887 William Ely described the Old Bank Building in his book, The Big Sandy Valley. He said that "for beauty of architectural design, substantiality of construction, convenience of internal and external arrangements, and general appearance (it) is equal to the finest buildings for similar purposes in the great cities of the country. It is altogether the handsomest building in Catlettsburg..."

In 1916 the Catlettsburg National Bank was dissolved. No bank records of the Catlettsburg National Bank survive. Although the Old Bank Building was purchased by the Farmers and Merchants Bank, this bank was not in a legal sense a successor institution. For forty years the Old Bank Building housed dental and medical offices. Even though the building is presently vacant; the owner plans an adaptive use. Some local historians feel that if the building were properly restored, it would again be "altogether the handsomest building in Catlettsburg."

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
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<td>SW</td>
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**LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>38 ° 25' 02&quot; N</td>
<td>82 ° 35' 50&quot; W</td>
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</table>

**APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:** less than 1 acre

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>CODE</th>
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**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

Jennifer Kaye Robinson, Research Analyst

**ORGANIZATION**

Kentucky Heritage Commission

**DATE**

March 26, 1973

**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 [x]

**Name**

Altha Summer Willis

**Title**

State Liaison Officer

**Date**

April 14, 1973

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

**Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation**

**Date**

May 25, 1973

**ATTEST:**

**Keeper of The National Register**

**Date**

5-23-73
**Form 10-300**

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

*(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)*

**STATE:** KENTUCKY

**COUNTY:** BOYD

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTRY NUMBER</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MAY 25, 1973</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. **NAME**

   **COMMON:**
   - Old Bank Building

   **AND/OR HISTORIC:**
   - Catlettsburg National Bank

2. **LOCATION**

   **STREET AND NUMBER:**
   - 110 26th Street

   **CITY OR TOWN:**
   - Catlettsburg

3. **CLASSIFICATION**

   **CATEGORY (Check One):**
   - District
   - Site
   - Structure
   - Object

   **OWNERSHIP:**
   - Public
   - Private
   - Both

   **STATUS:**
   - Occupied
   - Unoccupied
   - Preservation work in progress

   **ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC:**
   - Restricted
   - Unrestricted
   - Yes
   - No

   **PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate):**
   - Agricultural
   - Commercial
   - Educational
   - Entertainment
   - Government
   - Industrial
   - Military
   - Religious
   - Scientific
   - Transportation
   - Vacant

4. **OWNER OF PROPERTY**

   **OWNER'S NAME:**
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   **STREET AND NUMBER:**
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5. **LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

   **COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:**
   - Boyd County Court House

   **STREET AND NUMBER:**
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   **CITY OR TOWN:**
   - Catlettsburg

6. **REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

   **TITLE OF SURVEY:**
   - Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

   **DATE OF SURVEY:**
   - Federal
   - State
   - County
   - Local

   **DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:**
   - Kentucky Heritage Commission

   **STREET AND NUMBER:**
   - 401 Wapping Street

   **CITY OR TOWN:**
   - Frankfort

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   - Kentucky

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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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### 9. Major Bibliographical References


### 10. Geographical Data

**Latitude and Longitude Coordinates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corner</th>
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**Approximate Acreage of Nominated Property:** less than 1 acre

**List all States and Counties for Properties Overlapping State or County Boundaries**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
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### 11. Form Prepared By

**Name and Title:** Jennifer Kaye Robinson, Research Analyst

**Organization:** Kentucky Heritage Commission

**Street and Number:** 401 Wapping Street

**City or Town:** Frankfort

**Date:** March 26, 1973

### 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
- [x] Local

**Name:** Willis

**Title:** State Liaison Officer

**Date:** April 14, 1973

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

**Chief, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation**

**Date:** 5/25/73

**Attest:**

**Keeper of the National Register**

**Date:** 5/23/73