

PH0368521

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 16 1977

DATE ENTERED FEB 14 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

First State Bank of Buxton

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

423 Broadway Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Buxton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

1

STATE

North Dakota

CODE
38

COUNTY
Traill

CODE
097

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: None

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

First State Bank of Buxton

STREET & NUMBER

Post Office Box 68

CITY, TOWN

Buxton

VICINITY OF

STATE

North Dakota 58218

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Traill County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Post Office Box 148

CITY, TOWN

Hillsboro

STATE

North Dakota 58045

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

North Dakota Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historical Society of North Dakota
Liberty Memorial Building

CITY, TOWN

Bismarck

STATE

North Dakota 58505

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR
 DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The former First State Bank of Buxton is a 26 by 46-foot, 1-story, flat-roofed structure without basement. Its footings go down 18 feet and the 2-foot thick walls are constructed of granite. The 3-bay facade is enriched with a corbeled cornice of granite and curved granite courses which outline the round arches of the doorway and the two windows south of it. A stained-glass lunette reading "Bank" is over the door, and similar but unlettered lunettes formed headings for the original 6-light, single-sash windows, but these apertures were entirely filled with glass blocks in 1960. Four small glass-block windows are on the north elevation but no openings of any kind are on the south elevation or the rear. There is a tall brick chimney on the latter. The roof of the building was repaired, new electrical wiring put in, and the floor braced at the northwest corner in 1973. Three years earlier, a bank sign with clock and temperature gauge was mounted on a pole at the entrance.

The principal asset of the interior of the building is the original wooden fixtures in the banking room: carved posts supporting paneled bases beneath a superstructure of marble shelves on brackets, brass grilles, and an openwork, spindled frieze. Behind the grilles are pedals by which, in case of robbery, tellers formerly activated gas emitted from ornamental knobs on the bases of the fixtures. Paneling has been applied to the walls to achieve a wainscoting effect, and the green carpet was laid in the 1960s. The acoustical tile ceiling was dropped below an earlier one of pressed wood, which in turn had covered the original sheathing of decorative stamped metal. The vault at the southwest corner of the room has an elaborate surround of pilasters which support an entablature beneath a broken pediment.

All-electric heating has been installed in the building, but the first heating system was a cast-iron, coal-burning stove in the banking room and a still-functioning fireplace in the office in the northwest corner. The fireplace has a tile hearth and an arched surround of brick headers. The mantelpiece, also brick, features a shelf on consoles above a frieze with guilloche banding. Framing for windows and the paneled doors in the building consists of molded side and head casings, with the latter terminating in corner blocks carved in sunbursts and topped by cornices.

The location of the former bank is lot 1 and the north foot of lot 2 in block 4 of the original Buxton townsite, or the southwest corner of the principal intersection (Broadway Street and Daisy Avenue), across from the railroad. A new garage behind the building is used for storage of old bank records, furniture, and equipment, and a deteriorated barn west of the garage was recently demolished.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Oliver S. Hanson (Builder)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former First State Bank of Buxton building symbolizes the economic viability of the locale which the institution has served since 1884, as well as the 58-year career of Oliver S. Hanson, the pioneer Red River Valley banker and civic leader who chartered it. The building is also significant architecturally, with its original exterior and interior design largely intact.

Buxton is in northcentral Trail County, situated in the southern part of Section 25, Township 140 North, Range 51 West. It was founded and laid out by Budd Reeve in 1880, the year the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway (predecessor of the Great Northern Railway) came through. A dozen years later, Buxton was a thriving little town, boasting among its assets three churches, three elevators, nine stores, a hotel, a lumber yard, two agricultural implement firms, a town hall, an Odd Fellows' lodge, free reading rooms, and a bank. The latter was the First State Bank of Buxton, founded by Oliver S. Hanson (1862-1939), whose parents emigrated from Norway to America in 1851. Born in Allamakee County, Iowa, Hanson was educated in rural schools and employed on farms in Iowa prior to coming to North Dakota in 1881. He subsequently spent three years in the position of bookkeeper for the Hillsboro National Bank and in 1884 went to Buxton, where he established the First State Bank of Buxton and became cashier. A few months later he purchased the firm, which he conducted for a time as a private bank. When it was reorganized in 1890 as a state institution, he became president.

Hanson's first bank building was a small frame structure in the rear of which he resided; in the 1890s he erected a new building of granite for which neither the architect nor contractor has been identified. In 1907 he moved from Buxton to Grand Forks, where he became president of the Northwestern National Bank (formerly the American Scandinavian Bank). When Northwestern consolidated with the First National Bank of Grand Forks in 1929, Hanson was elected chairman of the board, from which position he retired in 1930. He retained his interests in other banks, including the First State Bank of Buxton, until his death. He was a member of the Republican party state central committee and from 1932 to 1939 served as a Grand Forks city commissioner. In 1896 Hanson had been named a delegate to the Republican national convention in St. Louis, where, as the youngest delegate present (age 34), he supported the successful candidate, William McKinley.

In 1937 the First State Bank of Buxton merged with the First State Bank of Thompson (located 15 miles north in Grand Forks County). Two years later, the deposits and liabilities of the State Bank of Reynolds (4 miles north) were assumed. When the

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hillsboro Banner. "First State Bank of Buxton To Mark 75th Anniversary Tues." May 12, 1960.
 Maddox, Dawn. Personal inspection, November 5, 1976.
 Marshall, Paul. President, First State Bank of Buxton. Personal interview,
 November 5, 1976.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,4	64,310,1,0	5,217,316,8,5	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Dawn Maddox, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

State Historical Society of North Dakota

DATE

May 10, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Liberty Memorial Building

TELEPHONE

701-224-2666

CITY OR TOWN

Bismarck

STATE

North Dakota 58505

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

James E. Sherry

TITLE

N.D. State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

May 10, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Robert B. Pettig

DATE

2/14/78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST

Charles A. ...

DATE

2.9.78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

First State Bank of Buxton changed hands in 1972, the purchase from then-president S.N. Lommen brought to an end the long-term association of his family with the institution. S.N. Lommen had become president of the bank in 1940 and a member of the board of directors in 1917. His father, E.E. Lommen, had been first cashier from 1909 to 1915, and his son Robert had continued the family tradition to the third generation, retiring as vice president in 1972.

As the result of the moving in March, 1977, of the First State Bank of Buxton to new quarters next door to its old building, the future of the latter is in doubt. There is local sentiment for making it a museum, a proposal also supported by the owners, who favor converting it to a museum of local banking history. Such a use would be especially feasible in view of the building's period accoutrements, as well as the voluminous records available which date from the bank's founding. These pertain not only to banking affairs but also reflect the institution's promotional role in the early settlement of Buxton and the surrounding area.