

Desha Co.
Dumas
Merchants
Farmers
Bank

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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Sheet 43 Item number 1, 2, 4, 6 & 10 Page 1

INDIVIDUAL DATA SHEET

General Description

Code: DE-014 Congressional District: Fourth

Name: Merchants & Farmers Bank Current Owner: Merchants & Farmers Bank
 Address: Waterman & Main Sts. Mr. C. T. Frank, President
 Dumas, Arkansas Address: P.O. Drawer D
 County: Desha Dumas, Arkansas 71639

Structural Information

Architectural Firm: Charles L. Thompson

Date of Construction: 1913 Stylistic Influence: Classical Revival

Original Use: Commercial/Bank Present Use: Vacant

Geographical Information

UTM Reference: 15 639500/3750500 Acreage: Less than one

Verbal Boundary Description: Evan's Addition
 Block 1, 36' South part of Lot 36 fronting 23' on
 Railroad and right of way, and back to alley.

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered
<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed	

United States Department of the Interior
 National Park Service

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Continuation sheet 44

Item number 7 & 8

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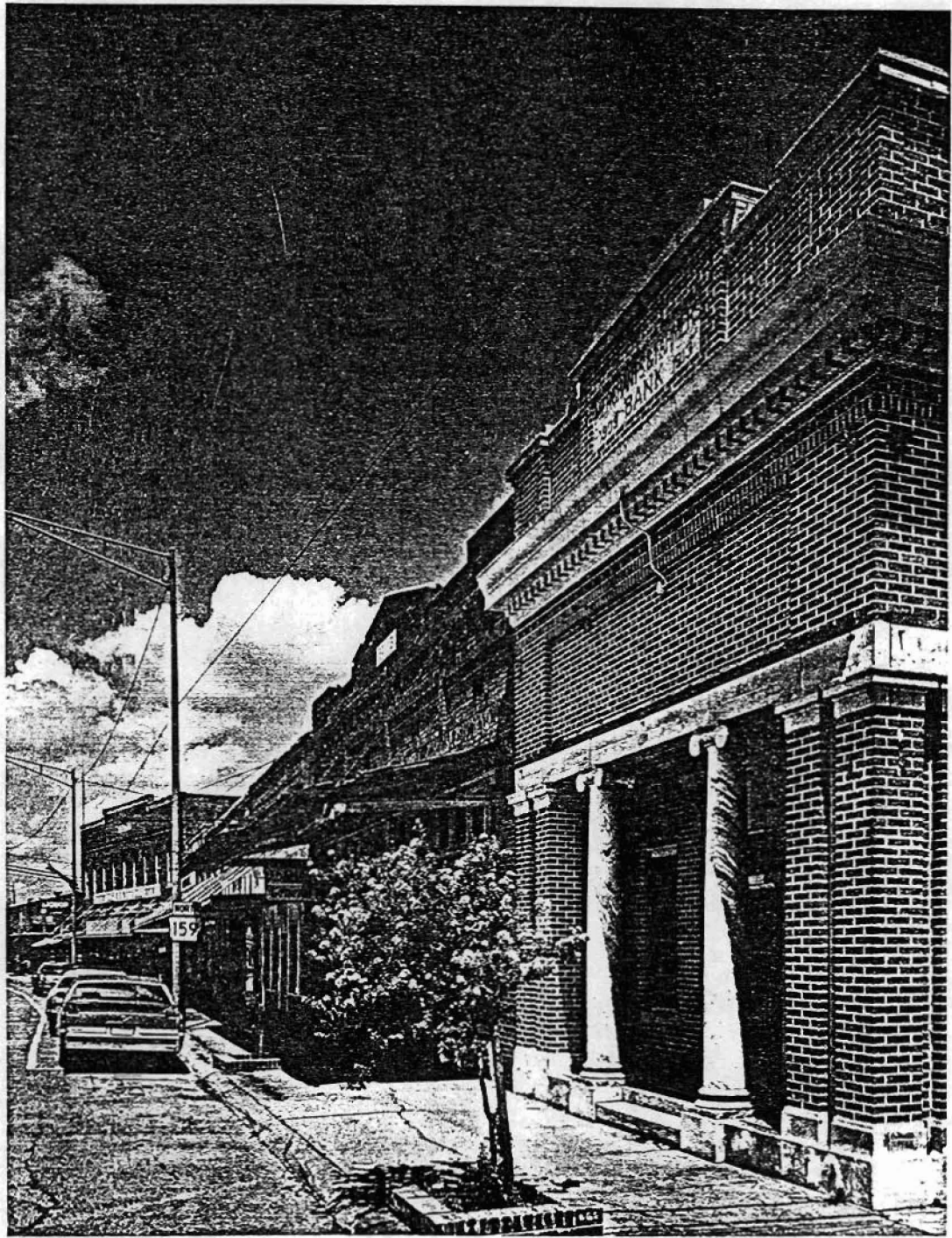
Code: DE-014 (Waterman & Main Streets, Dumas, AR)

Physical Description

Anchoring the corner of a street lined with rather ordinary late-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century commercial buildings is this formal and distinctive Classical Revival bank designed in 1913. This one-story rectangular, flat roofed structure is constructed of dark red brick laid in Flemish bond and crowned by a parapet outlined with stone coping. The entrance is distinguished by a narrow porch and two marble Ionic columns in antis flanked by brick piers with simple stone bases and capitals. Surmounting these supporting members is a plain stone architrave, a wide, paneled brick frieze and a projecting stone cornice embellished with dentils. This cornice wraps both front and side elevations. The slightly elevated central panel of the parapet features a stone panel inscribed with the name of the bank and the date. A simple molded stone architrave and cornice supported by plain brackets surround the single leaf door. The windows feature flat brick arches, stone sills and multi-paned lights.

Statement of Significance

Charles L. Thompson's 1913 design for the Merchants and Farmers Bank in Dumas, Arkansas is one of his most well-integrated and refined Neo-Classical designs. Located on a corner of the main downtown business district in this small southern Arkansas city, the bank is a dignified anchor to the streetscape. While the use of classical detailing in commercial buildings was a common practice of Thompson's, the bank's Classical Revival elements are quite uncommon in the Dumas streetscape. More formal in style than the Bank of Waldo (CO-008) or the Bank of Carthage (DA-013), the Merchants and Farmers Bank in Dumas is a rectangular brick structure featuring a classically detailed facade. The two marble Ionic columns placed in antis marking the entrance create one of the firm's most refined commercial building entrances. A stone cornice with dentils wraps around the west and south elevations. An elevated central panel of the facade parapet features a stone panel inscribed with the name and date of the building. One of the more important historic buildings in this small town, the Merchants and Farmers Bank of Dumas is a fine example of the firm's ability to design an elegant but affordable building for a small town establishment.

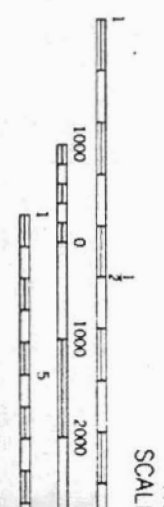
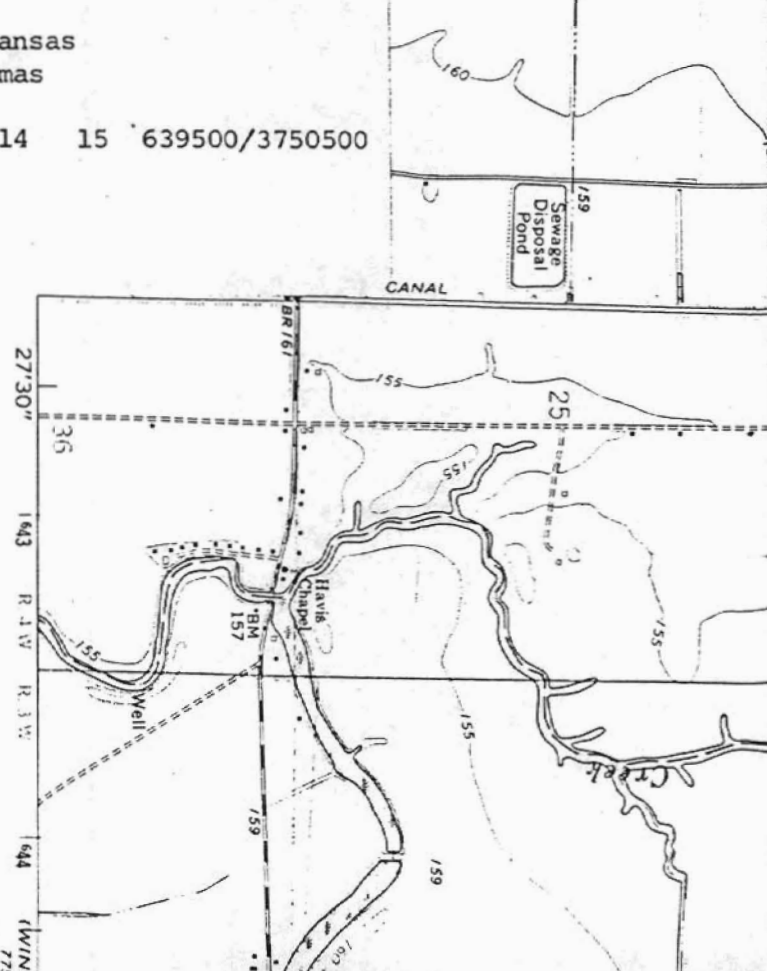




Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS
 Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
 taken 1966. Topography by planetable surveys 1969
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, south zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 15, shown in blue
 Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
 generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Structures in Arkansas Represented by the Charles L. Thompson Design Collection

Dumas, Desha Co., Arkansas
 Quadrangle Name: Dumas
 Scale: 1:24,000
 UTM Reference: DE-014 15 639500/3750500



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BR 156 1:24,000