

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

## 1. Name of Property

historic name National Bank of Davis

other names/site number N/A

## 2. Location

street & number 417 William Avenue

city or town Davis

state West Virginia

code WV

county Tucker

code 093

zip code 26260

☐ not for publication

☐ vicinity

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

   national    statewide X local

Susan M. Perce  
Signature of certifying official/Title

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

8/4/2020  
Date

West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property    meets    does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

   entered in the National Register

   determined eligible for the National Register

   determined not eligible for the National Register

   removed from the National Register

   other (explain:   )

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

National Bank of Davis  
Name of Property

Tucker County, WV  
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## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	<b>Total</b>

### Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/financial institution

GOVERNMENT/post office

SOCIAL/meeting hall

COMMERCE/specialty store

COMMERCE/professional

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT/post office

COMMERCE/specialty store

DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling

COMMERCE/professional

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN/Romanesque

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE/sandstone

walls: STONE/sandstone; BRICK; STUCCO

roof: METAL

other: WOOD

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### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### Summary Paragraph

The National Bank of Davis is a nine-bay Richardsonian Romanesque building with wood bracketed eaves and decorative frieze set beneath a hipped roof (Photo 1). Constructed in two phases - in 1892 and 1915 - the building maintains a generally consistent exterior appearance, however, differences in construction techniques and materials typical of these construction periods are evident from the interior and rear of the building. Exterior walls are largely finished in random ashlar sandstone, with some secondary elevations finished with exposed or parged brick masonry. Double-hung wood windows, set in half-round arches at the first and third stories, are present throughout the building, along with stone headers and sills. The east and west wings are set beneath hipped roofs bridged by a side-gabled hyphen. This A combination hipped and side-gabled roof, recently sheathed with copper-painted standing seam metal, rests on bracketed wood eaves with a decorative frieze. The first-story storefront facing William Avenue maintains much of its historic fabric despite some modern infill. At the central and western sections of the building, a continuous metal panel painted with "The National Bank of Davis" and "U.S. Post Office, Davis, W.V. 26256" spans the top of storefront spaces. Despite the changes in the building's use over time, a large amount of original historic interior fabric, including casework, millwork, pressed tin ceilings, and a bank vault, remain in-place and visible to the public.

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### Narrative Description

See continuation sheets.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### 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.)

Property is:

☐ A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ B removed from its original location.

☐ C a birthplace or grave.

☐ D a cemetery.

☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ F a commemorative property.

☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ECONOMICS

ARCHITECTURE

### Period of Significance

1892-1969

### Significant Dates

1892

1915

### Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Sauer, Frederick C.

Middlemas, A.

### Period of Significance (justification)

See continuation sheets.

### Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

See continuation sheets.

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The National Bank of Davis, constructed in 1892 and expanded in 1915, is significant at the local level under criteria A and C for its association with the economic development of Tucker County, West Virginia, and as a good example of late nineteenth century Richardsonian Romanesque architecture. As one of a very limited number of masonry buildings constructed in Davis during the town's peak years as a regional timber processing center, the imposing structure conveys its importance as the home of not only the first bank established in Tucker County, but also the U. S. Post Office, which has operated continuously from the building since 1892. Although competing banks were established in nearby Parsons and Thomas, the National Bank of Davis continued operating from the building as the sole bank in the town of Davis through the entire twentieth century. The building also stands as one of the only identified West Virginia works of Pittsburgh architect Frederick C. Sauer, whose remaining extant body of work is located in southwestern Pennsylvania. The period of significance for the National Bank of Davis begins with its date of construction, in 1892, and continues through 1969 to include the entire historic period, as the building served as the center of all economic activity in the town of Davis until the early twenty-first century.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

See continuation sheets.

**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (if appropriate)

See continuation sheets.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

See 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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office  
☐ Other State agency  
☐ Federal agency  
☐ Local government  
☒ University  
☐ Other  
Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): TU-1622

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## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

NAD 1983

1	<u>17 S</u> Zone	<u>632731</u> Easting	<u>4332200</u> Northing	4	<u>17 S</u> Zone	<u>632708</u> Easting	<u>4332168</u> Northing
2	<u>17 S</u> Zone	<u>632736</u> Easting	<u>4332184</u> Northing	5	<u>17 S</u> Zone	<u>632659</u> Easting	<u>4332153</u> Northing
3	<u>17 S</u> Zone	<u>632706</u> Easting	<u>4332175</u> Northing	6	<u>17 S</u> Zone	<u>632651</u> Easting	<u>4332178</u> Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

See continuation sheets.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

See continuation sheets.

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>Paula McClain / Preservation Associate and Historian</u>		
organization	<u>Mills Group</u>	date	<u>December 2019</u>
street & number	<u>63 Wharf Street, Suite 300</u>	telephone	<u>304-296-1010</u>
city or town	<u>Morgantown</u>	state	<u>WV</u> zip code <u>26501</u>
e-mail	<u><a href="mailto:pmcclain@millsgrouponline.com">pmcclain@millsgrouponline.com</a></u>		

### Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

See continuation sheets.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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**Narrative Description**

*Location and Setting*

Located near the terminus of 4<sup>th</sup> Street along William Avenue/Route 32, just north of the Blackwater River in Davis, West Virginia, the National Bank of Davis building stands as the oldest extant commercial building on the river side of the road dating to the town's peak production years (Photo 1). With minimal setback from the road, the building is prominently sited along the southern side of William Avenue, which carries West Virginia Route 32 through the town of Davis (Photo 2). Standing as the only extant historic masonry structure in the commercial core of town, the remainder of the surrounding historic building stock includes two- and three-story Italianate wood frame commercial buildings and two-story National style frame residences. Later development dating to the mid-twentieth century is evident in the surrounding area: a former bank drive-through teller building converted into a laundromat is located immediately east of the Bank building within the same tax parcel (Photo 4). To the south, the site of a former lumber production mill has been redeveloped as a community park, and a vacant two-story motor lodge is situated between the park and the Bank parcel.

**National Bank of Davis Building**

**1892, 1915**

**one contributing building**

*Exterior*

The National Bank of Davis building is rectangular in shape and has nearly symmetrical massing, with nine bays divided into three distinct sections (Photo 6). The three-story east and west wings are three and two bays wide, respectively, five bays deep, and flank a central two- and one-half story section divided into four bays. A party wall divides the central section into two separate interior spaces, a division which is evident from the exterior (Figure 1). Brick- and rock-veneered infill walls dating to the mid-late twentieth century flank the sandstone pilaster that divides these spaces. A basement story and a single-story addition to the easternmost and central portions of the building are visible from the rear (Photo 4).

Structural walls are made up of brick and structural terra cotta masonry and sheathed in random ashlar sandstone at the north and east walls. At the single-story rear addition and east-facing wall of the west wing, exposed brick masonry is finished with sandstone quoins. Although the south- and west-facing brick masonry walls of the west wing are parged and painted white, sandstone quoins, window headers, and sills remain unpainted and highly visible (Photo 5). The central and east portions of the building, constructed some sixteen years prior to the west wing, rest on ashlar sandstone foundation walls (Photo 8). At the later west wing and single-story rear extension, foundation walls are made up of structural terra cotta blocks with brick masonry exterior cladding (Photo 9). Sandstone blocks face the exterior of these walls along the east elevation, creating a seamless transition with the original construction, while the south and east elevations are finished in either exposed or parged brick masonry.

The east and west wings of the building are topped with hipped roofs, while the central portion rests beneath a side-gabled roof that joins the flanking roofs near its ridge (see Photo 2). These roofs are sheathed in standing seam metal in a copper finish, added within the past ten years. A flat roof with metal-capped parapet covers the single-story southern addition. Eaves beneath hipped and gabled portions of the roof are wood,

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supported by prominent scrolled wood brackets. Brackets are set atop a paneled wood frieze with delicate dentil molding and wood roundels centered on panels. A single exterior chimney is present on the building. It appears on the south elevation of the original building, spanning the joint between the three- and two- and one-half story sections. Today, it emerges from the flat roof of the southernmost addition to the building. There is no evidence of any interior mantles or fireboxes associated with the use of this chimney.

*Windows and Exterior Doors*

Windows and exterior doors throughout the building are wood, except in the case of some modern aluminum or vinyl replacements. Six square wood casement windows open to the basement story, which is also accessible via four single-leaf wood doors along the south elevation. Exterior iron bars with decorative scrolls are set in all basement window openings. First-story windows at the south elevation are double-hung wood; four windows at the central section have been reduced in size and the upper thirds infilled with brick masonry, with original stone headers still in place (see Photo 4).

At the first story on the east elevation, single-pane fixed display windows are set beneath half-round arched transoms (see Photo 3). The northeast corner of the building, anchored around a sandstone-clad pillar, is infilled with an aluminum storefront system of contemporary single-leaf glazed doors surrounded by sidelights and three-pane transoms (Photo 7). At the north elevation, facing William Avenue, a second large single-pane fixed display window is set beneath a rectangular transom. To the west of this display window, a narrow set of double-leaf paneled wooden doors lead to a staircase providing access to second-floor spaces; this door is also set beneath a rectangular transom. The central infilled bays are accessed via two single-leaf wooden doors set beneath transoms; three-pane fixed aluminum windows face the street in these bays. The westernmost storefront section has a central recessed aluminum entry door flanked by wood-framed display windows with transoms (see Photos 1 and 3). On the west elevation at the first story, two double-hung wood windows with half-round arched tops open to the post office space within.

All windows at the second story are wood double-hung. At the third story, half-round arched wood double-hung windows are present on the east and west elevations; however, at the west elevation, the three southernmost windows have been replaced with standard vinyl double-hung windows set beneath arched openings infilled with wood panels painted to match eaves (Photo 9). The northernmost two windows on the west elevation, third story, have divided lights in the upper sashes. The third-story windows on the southern elevation are rectangular and do not have arched tops. Windows opening to the half-story within the central portion of the building, both on the north and south elevations, are paired wood double-hung set beneath two-pane transoms that punctuate the wood frieze band beneath the bracketed eaves (see Photo 6).

*Interior*

The interior of the National Bank of Davis building is divided into three main functional spaces. The first floor consists of commercial and post office space, the upper two floors include private offices and apartments, and the basement is used largely for storage. Upon its expansion in 1915, the National Bank of Davis occupied the east wing of the building, the U.S. Post Office was housed in the west wing, as is the case today, and the central bay at the first story housed various commercial enterprises, including a drug store.

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The second floor was used as private offices and apartments, while the third floor included a large meeting hall for use by fraternal organizations (Figure 2, Figure 3). Today, while the post office remains in its original location, the bank space has been converted for commercial use, and the third floor has been converted for use as apartments and offices. Despite minor loss of some historic fabric resulting from the adaptive reuse of the building, most original interior features remain as they did during the building's period of significance.

The east wing, which formerly housed the bank, maintains its historic bank teller casework, millwork, and vault. The wood casework in the lobby retains its original configuration with two openings for teller windows, each with inlaid stone countertops (Photo 10). Wood brackets support rounded projections of the counter surface. Beneath the countertop, a band of delicate carved acanthus leaves tops sunburst-carved panels surrounded by beaded wood trim. Wood panels, carved with scroll brackets, acanthus leaves, and egg-and-dart molding, extend up from the counter and span the casework between the teller windows. Behind the counter, the bank vault is accessed via a metal vault door with painted wood surround, topped with a broken pediment and urn finial (Photo 11). This door, as well as three doors protecting an internal safe located within the vault, are hand-painted with small picturesque landscapes, decorative borders, and swans (Photo 12). Hinges and the frame of the internal safe are also hand-painted with sunbursts and scrolls, and metalwork facing the inside of the main vault door is etched with scroll and vine motifs. "The National Bank of Davis" is painted across the upper frame of the internal safe (Photo 13).

Although the modernization and reconfiguration of the commercial spaces in the central bay resulted in the loss of some historic interior fabric, the post office, in the west wing of the building, maintains its original stamped tin ceiling (Photo 14). A second, slightly more intricate stamped tin ceiling is visible within the third-floor lodge space in the east wing, which historically served as the meeting room of the Masonic organization (Photo 15). Historic ceiling-mounted light fixtures and three sets of multi-tiered ceremonial platforms are also extant within this space, along with a window painted with "Fairfax Lodge, No. 96 A.F. & A.M." (see Photo 2). Many original interior paneled wood doors remain, particularly throughout the upper two floors. These doors are generally topped with an operable wood-frame transom, and most maintain original hinges and hardware. Additionally, although the second- and third-floor spaces have been repurposed as apartments and offices, a large percentage of historic base and crown moldings are present, as well as distinctive architectural details such as walls that meet in an S-curve (Photo 16).

Interior staircases leading to the second and third floors maintain their historic tongue-in-groove dado wainscoting set beneath a chair rail (Photo 17). The staircase leading from the first to the second floor is flanked by two original carved handrails that span the length of the run, while the mirrored quarter-turn stairway leading from the second to third floor has a single free-standing handrail finished with turned balusters and intricate square-cut newel posts with beaded molding (Photo 18).

#### *Alterations*

The central section of the building is divided into two bays at the storefront on the first story. Historically, recessed entry doors flanked the central stone pilaster, and large plate glass display windows, similar to those still present at the westernmost portion of the building, angled back from the front plane of the building to

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meet these doors (see Figure 1, Figure 5). This configuration provided both weather protection for patrons and business owners accessing these spaces, and additional display space for the wares within. The current infilled configuration, along with the associated brick and river rock veneer, new entry doors and transoms, and three-panel aluminum windows, appears to date to the late 1970s. The original flooring division that defined this bay is visible from the interior of the current space at the central bay (Photo 19). Historically, the metal panel which spans the central and westernmost portions of the first story was divided into three sections with vertical fins, serving as signage for the businesses occupying the spaces below. This alteration likely occurred contemporaneously with the infill of the central storefront sections.

The northeast corner of the building historically served as the entrance to the bank space in the eastern portion of the building. An entry door with transom was set at an angle to the street, creating a covered entry porch supported by the sandstone pillar at this corner. This entry porch was enclosed with aluminum storefront. Although the exact date of this alteration is unknown, it had been in place for some time by the turn of the twenty-first century and likely dates to the late 1980s or early 1990s. The original angled entry door configuration remains beyond this enclosure, resulting in the creation of a vestibule entry to the current easternmost retail space within the building.

Historic drawings indicate that the original 1892 building had a terra cotta tile roof with a central skylight (Figure 3). Drawings for the 1915 addition, as well as a later historic photograph, show a slate roof over the new portion of the building, but show the continued presence of the original skylight in the central portion of the building (Figure 6, Figure 12). Ultimately, the skylight was enclosed, and asphalt shingle roofing was added. The date of this alteration is unknown. The entire roof was recently sheathed in standing seam metal in a copper color.

The most substantial change to the building has taken place within the interior spaces at the two central bays of the first floor. Walls have been reconfigured, added, and removed to create commercial office spaces that retain very little visible historic character. Within the post office space at the west wing, an aluminum storefront system separates administrative and sorting spaces from public areas with mailboxes and service windows. In the east wing, the rear addition has been reconfigured at the interior with a new, angled hallway providing additional tenant space. Beadboard wainscoting, dentiled crown molding, and wood ceiling coffers are present in this space and likely date to the construction of the new hallway at the rear.

Flooring throughout interior spaces on all three floors has been covered with carpeting; original wood plank flooring remains beneath these modern materials. Acoustic drop ceilings set in a metal tray system are present in some secondary spaces throughout the building, however, in most cases, original ceilings remain above.

**Former Drive-Through Teller Building** **c. 1975** **one non-contributing building**

Single-story three-bay former bank drive-through teller building with random-cut stone veneered walls.

Parapet with faux mansard detail sheathed in wood shingles. Open canopy on round metal posts.

Constructed to support banking operations, the building was adaptively repurposed as a laundromat for the

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town of Davis. Although the building maintains integrity of location, integrity of setting has been somewhat compromised by changes in surrounding development and the continued evolution of the town of Davis. Despite this, the building retains sufficient integrity to convey its historic significance.

As the building is not of historic age, it is considered a non-contributing resource for the purposes of this nomination.

*Statement of Integrity*

In general, the National Bank of Davis building is in good condition and has been well-maintained, in part due to its continuous use and adaptive reuse over the course of its history. The wood eaves, brackets, and paneled frieze at the roofline, particularly at the west wing, are showing signs of water damage and deterioration. Other typical conditions include discoloration of exterior sandstone wall sheathing, deterioration of mortar joints at brick masonry exterior walls, and limited cracking of stucco on the west elevation.

The building maintains integrity of design, materials, workmanship, association, feeling, and location. The Richardsonian Romanesque design details of the 1892 portion of the building are reflected and amplified by the massing, layout, and use of materials throughout the 1915 addition. Historic character-defining materials, including exterior stone veneer and brick masonry walls, are not compromised by the limited presence of non-historic materials such as aluminum storefront infill and the new standing seam metal roof. Integrity of workmanship is evidenced by the presence of hand-crafted materials and details throughout, including cut sandstone, delicately carved wood exterior and interior elements, and hand-painted vault doors. Although the building no longer houses the bank, it does continue to serve as the center of postal operations and commerce for the town of Davis, and in this way, maintains integrity of its historic association. Taken together, the conservation of design, materials, workmanship, association, and location help to sustain the integrity of the historic feeling of the property.

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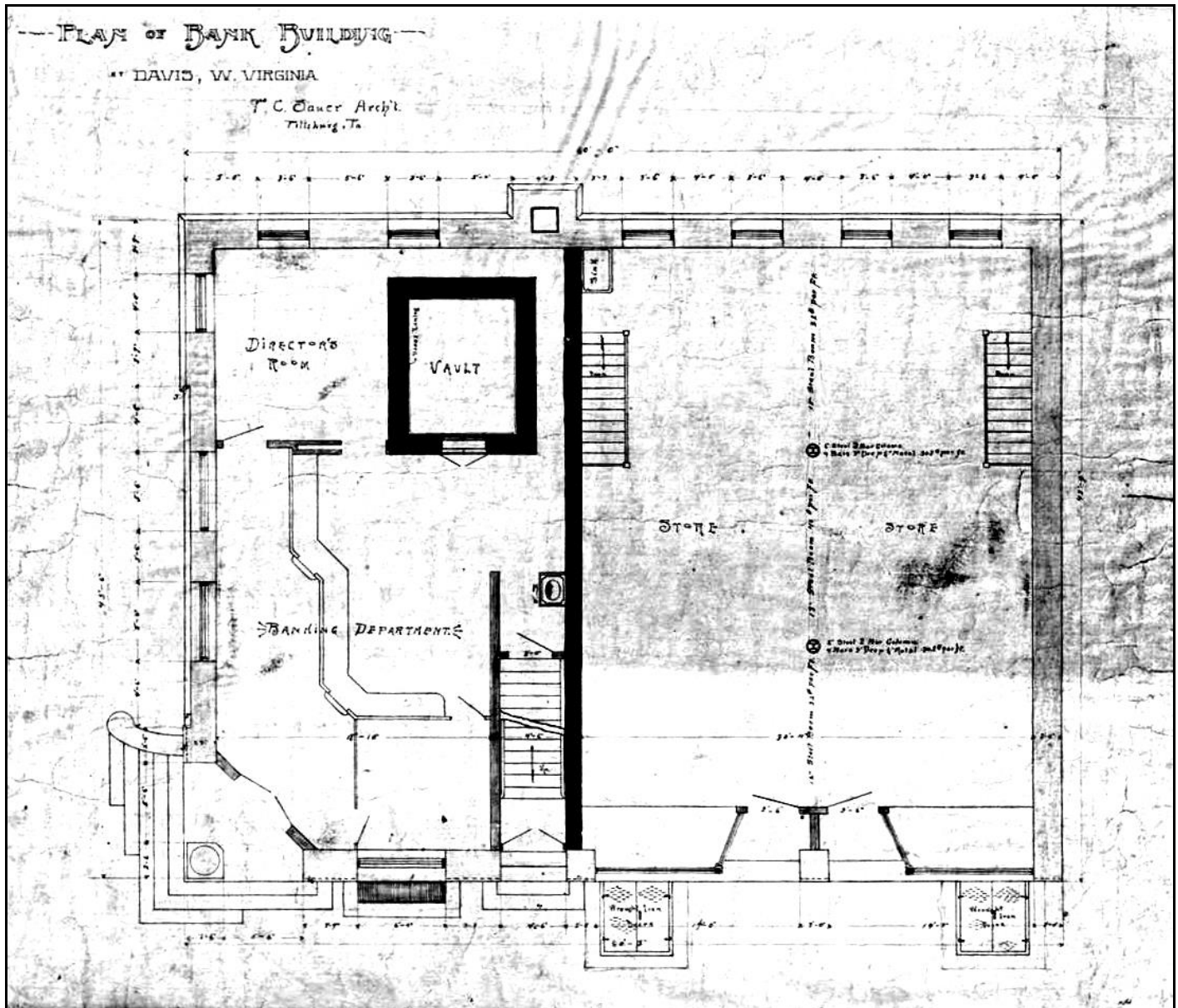


Figure 1. National Bank of Davis, 1892, First floor plan, inverted from original scan. Courtesy William Peterson (owner)

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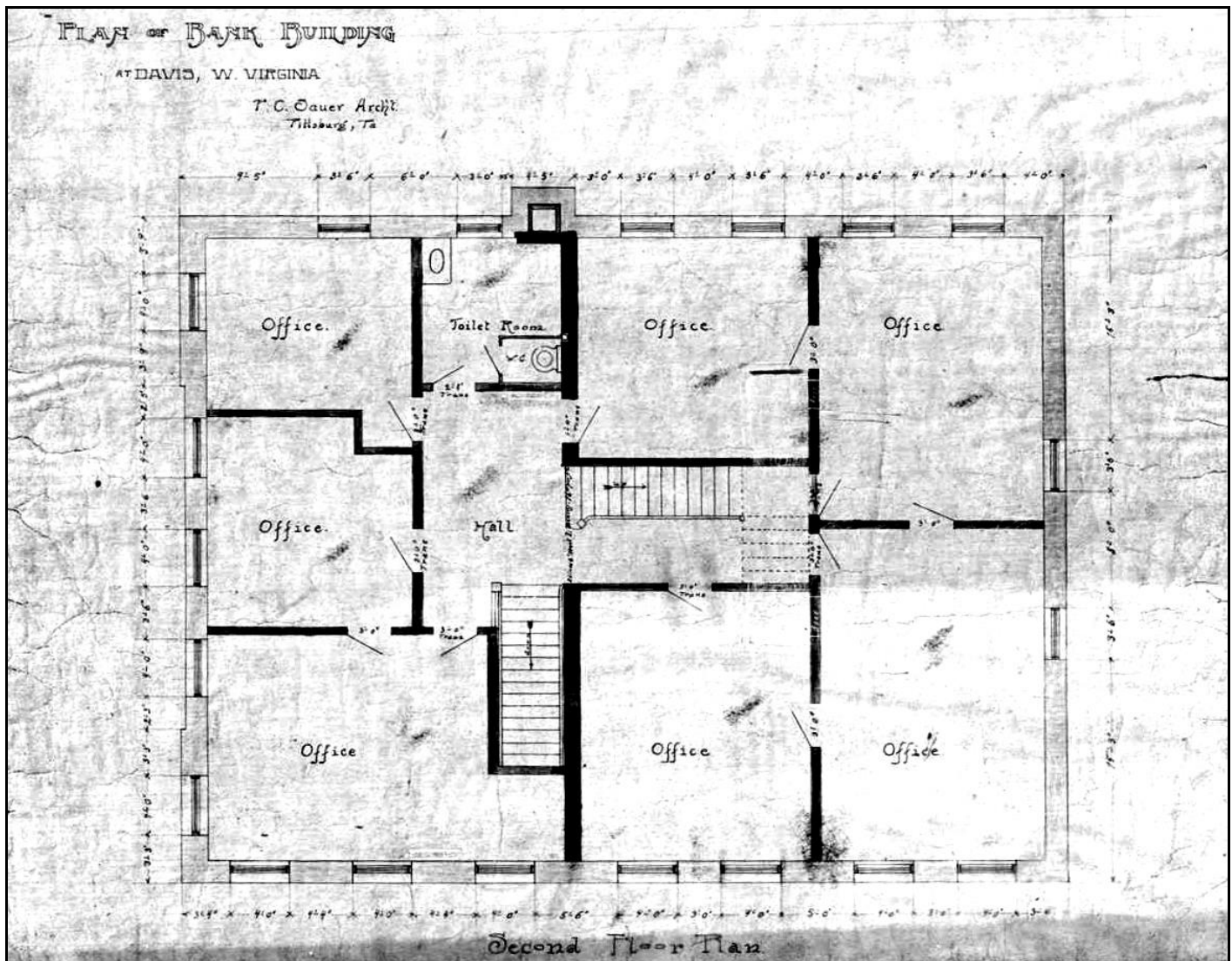


Figure 2. National Bank of Davis, 1892, Second floor plan, inverted from original scan. Courtesy William Peterson (owner)

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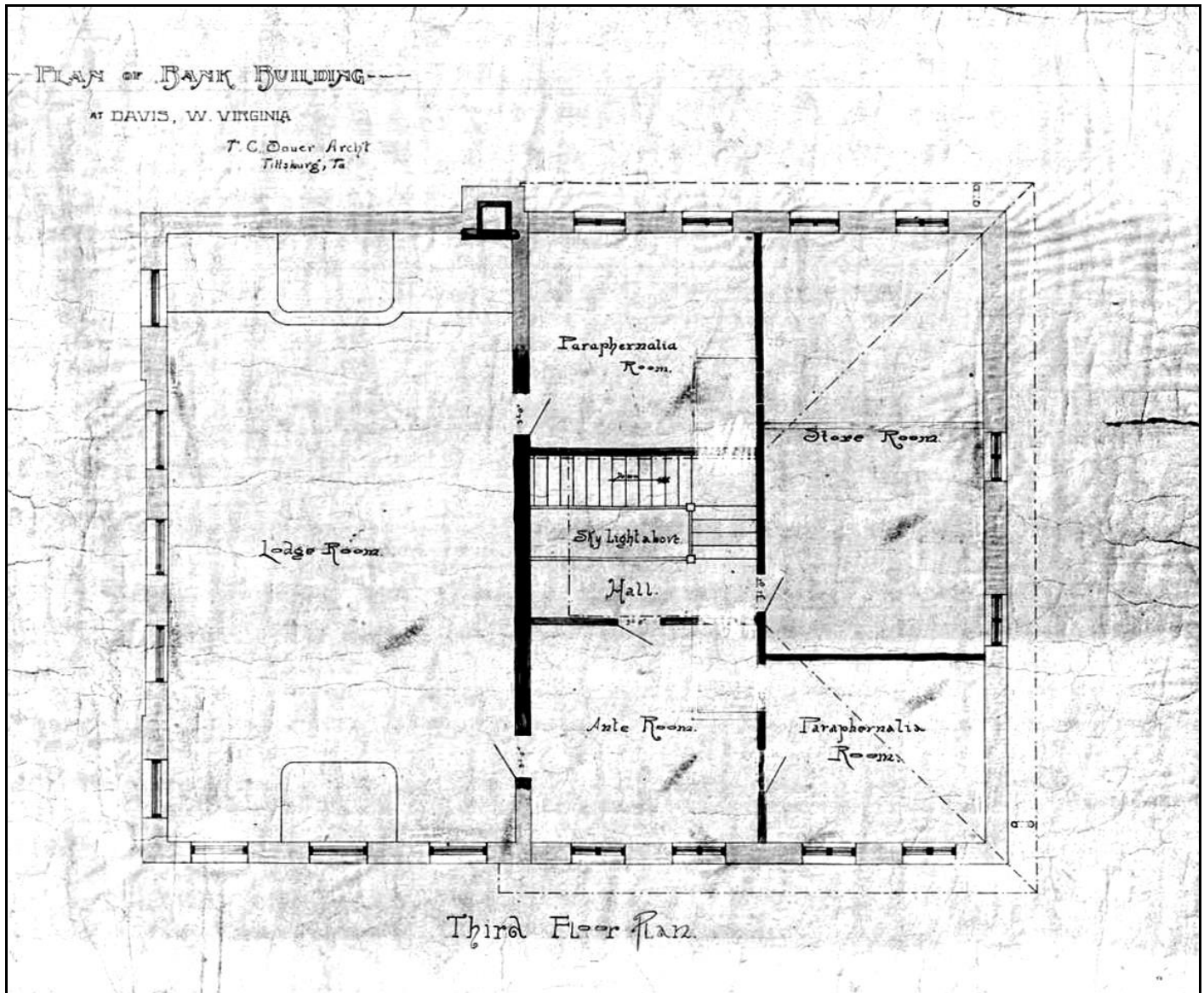


Figure 3. National Bank of Davis, 1892, Third floor plan, inverted from original scan. Courtesy William Peterson (owner)

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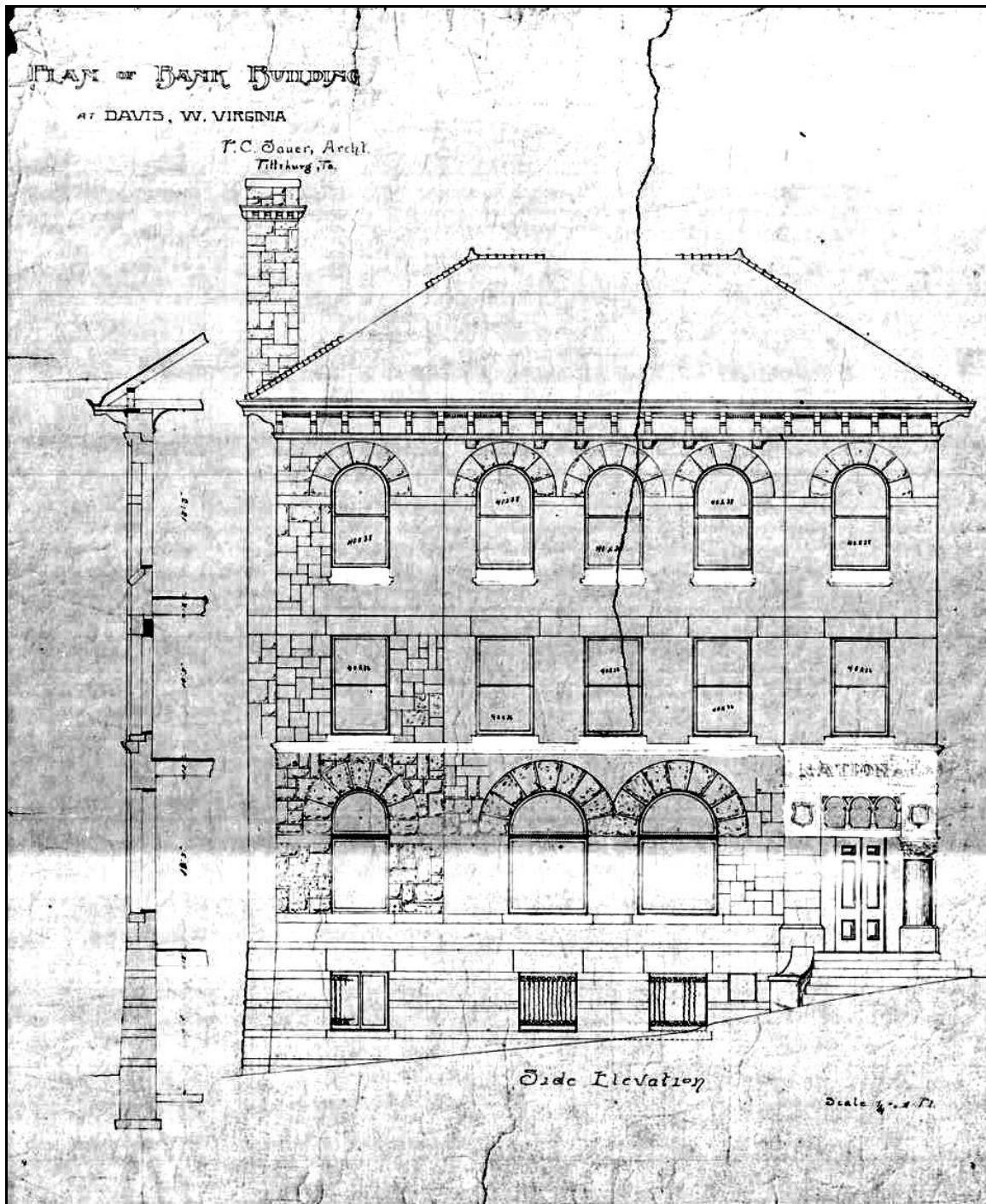


Figure 4. National Bank of Davis, 1892, East elevation drawing, inverted from original scan. Courtesy William Peterson (owner)

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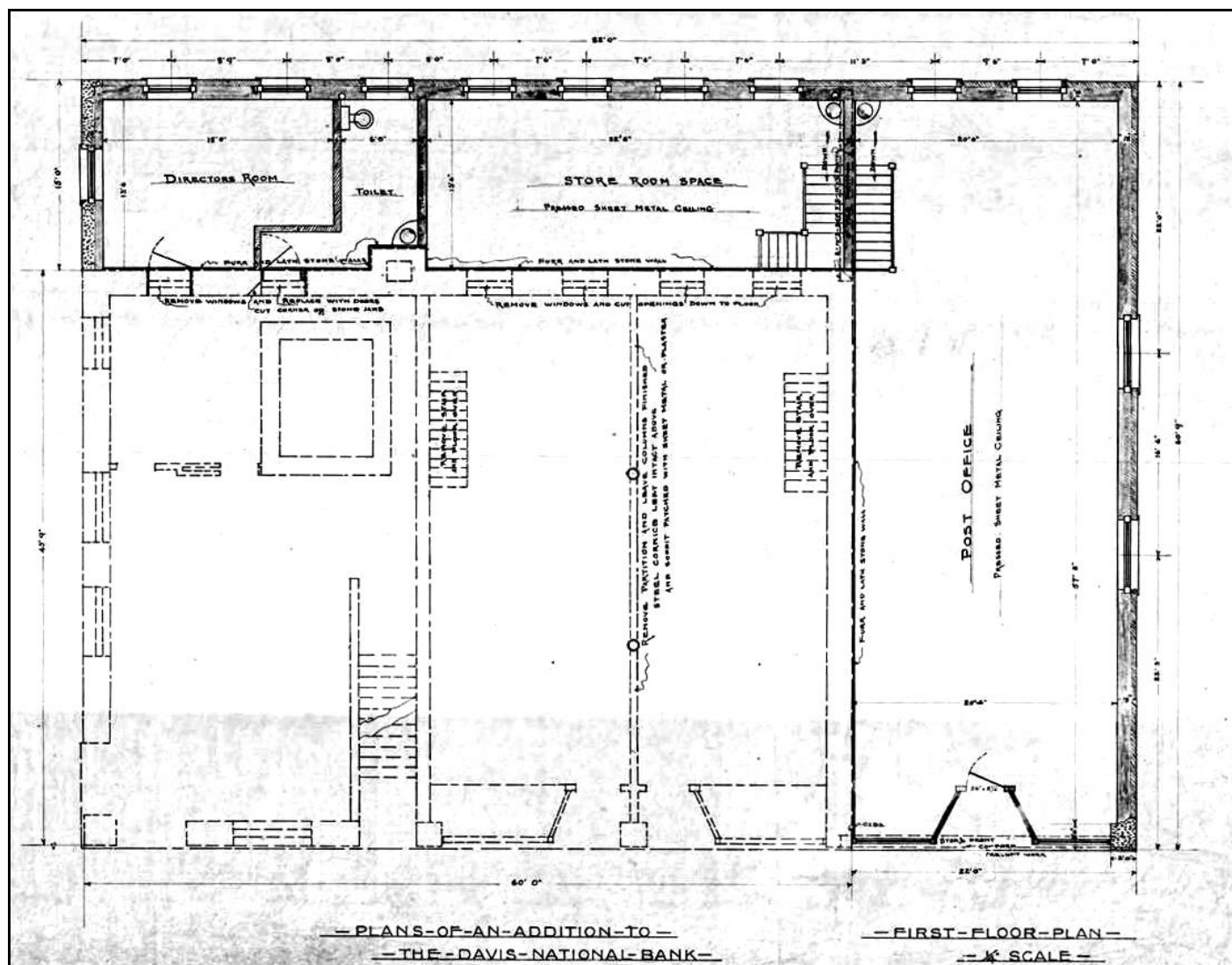
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Figure 5. National Bank of Davis, 1915, First floor plan, inverted from original scan. Courtesy William Peterson (owner)

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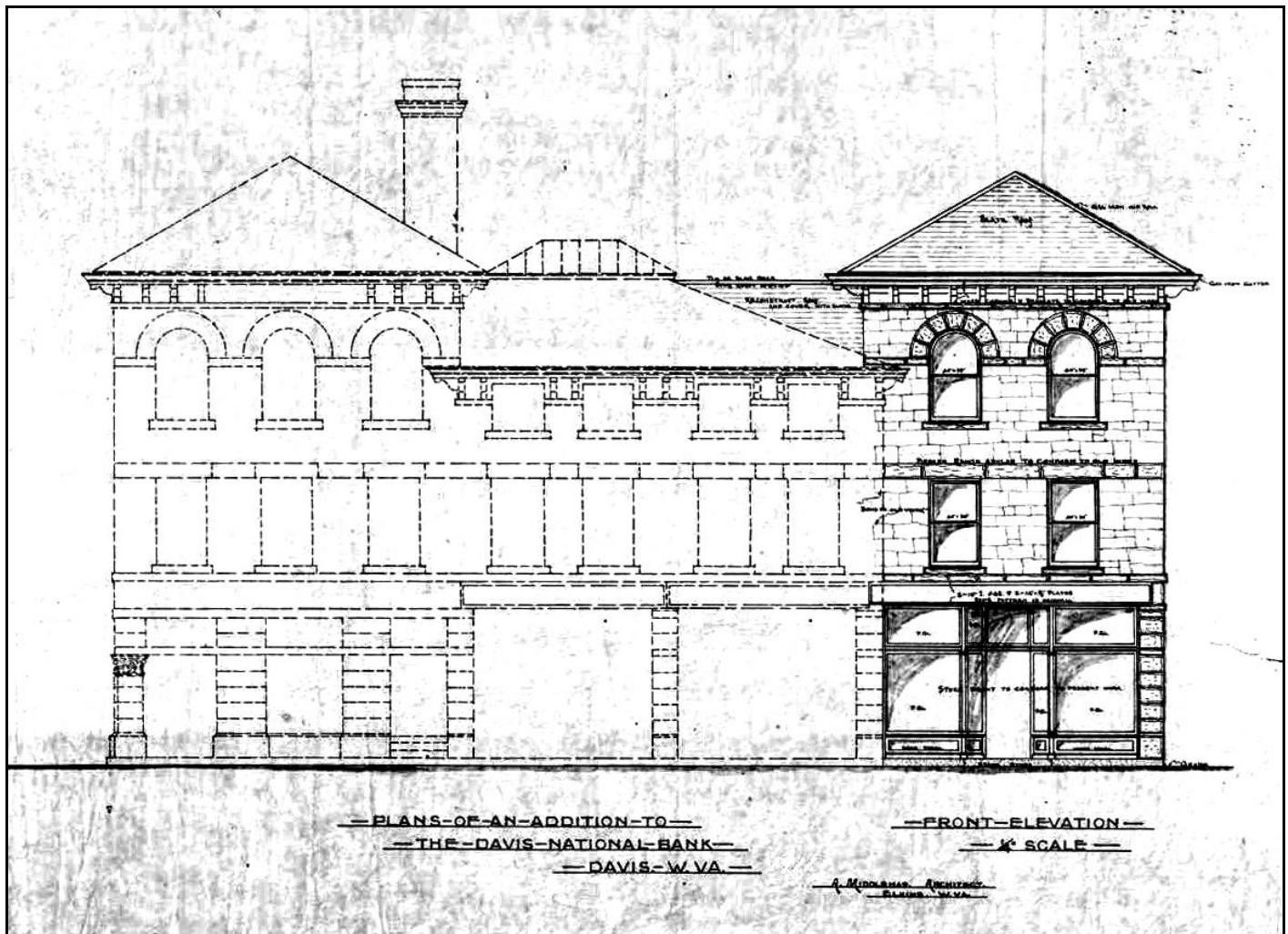
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Figure 6. National Bank of Davis, 1915, North elevation drawing, inverted from original scan. Courtesy William Peterson (owner)

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**Narrative Statement of Significance**

*Early Exploration of Tucker County*

Tucker County, Virginia was formed from part of Randolph County on March 7, 1856. More than one hundred years earlier, the mountainous and heavily-forested Allegheny Highlands region had been traversed by a surveying crew commissioned by Thomas Sixth Lord Fairfax to determine the western extent of his land claim, granted to his ancestors by King Charles II in the mid-seventeenth century.<sup>1</sup> In 1746, the Fairfax Stone was placed five miles northwest of the present-day town of Davis and would later serve to help determine the border between Maryland and West Virginia. While some settlement occurred in the area, the rocky geography, dense vegetation, and harsh winters resulting from the area's substantial elevation limited this development to a few scattered farms.

The 1838 construction of a turnpike from Parkersburg to Winchester brought a wagon road through Gorman, about 13 miles northeast of present-day Davis—today, State Route 50 follows roughly the same course. The presence of the road opened up the area to additional settlement and exploration, and observations on the Davis area gained international attention in 1853 with the publication of Philip Pendleton Kennedy's *The Blackwater Chronicle*. The humorous recounting of an 1851 fishing expedition into "The Canaan" by way of the Blackwater River included illustrations of the rugged countryside by David Hunter Strother, working under the pseudonym Porte Crayon.<sup>2</sup>

*Henry Gassaway Davis and the Economic Development of Tucker County*

Concurrent with the Kennedy publication, a 30-year-old Henry Gassaway Davis, having worked for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad for eleven years, was appointed as the station agent at Piedmont, Virginia.<sup>3</sup> Living in Frederick, Maryland and having just married Katherine Anne Bantz, the daughter of a local Judge and influential merchant, Davis requested relocation to the Piedmont station in 1853. In his role as a conductor, Davis frequently traveled west on the railroad, noting the mostly-untouched timber reserves of the Allegheny mountain region south of the line's trajectory between Piedmont and Deer Park, Maryland. After four years as a station agent at Piedmont, Davis and his brother, Thomas, used capital from his father-in-law's substantial estate to establish the H. G. Davis and Brother Company in 1858.<sup>4</sup> As one of the most prosperous enterprises in Piedmont, Davis was compelled to establish and become president of the Piedmont Savings Bank in 1858, later reorganized as the Davis National Bank.

Under their new venture, the brothers traded rail-delivered goods with local farmers in Piedmont but also began to purchase large tracts of land to the southwest, in newly-created Tucker County. Paying between

<sup>1</sup> Charles A. Grymes, "The Fairfax Grant," Virginia Places. <http://www.virginiaplaces.org/settleland/fairfaxgrant.html>, accessed August 1, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Philip Pendleton Kennedy, *The Blackwater Chronicle* (New York: Redfield, 1853), 5.

<sup>3</sup> Piedmont is located in present-day Mineral County, West Virginia.

<sup>4</sup> Associated Press, "Death of Henry Gassaway Davis," *The Elkins Inter-Mountain*, March 11, 1916, <http://www.wvculture.org/history/government/davishenry01.html>, accessed September 5, 2019.

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\$.50 and \$1.50 per acre, the brothers purchased hundreds of thousands of acres between 1858 and 1910.<sup>5</sup> In 1865, only two years after West Virginia's statehood, Henry became involved in politics, and was elected as West Virginia's first democratic Senator in 1870. He continued to serve two terms, until 1883, when he retired to Elkins. Despite recognizing the potential for lumbering and coal mining operations in the county, Davis also realized that these industries would require a railroad connection to allow for large-scale shipments of processed material. In 1880, Davis established the West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh Railway with his son-in-law, Stephen B. Elkins. The company began construction of the 75-mile line between Cumberland and Elkins which officially opened in 1881.

*Establishment of Davis*

In preparation for the arrival of the new railroad, the Davis Brothers hired Robert Ward Eastham, who lived in nearby Canaan Valley, to clear the forest at the confluence of the Blackwater River and Beaver Creek for the creation of a new town that would become Davis. As the railroad made its way toward the town site, a large coal seam was discovered three miles northeast beneath the present-day town of Thomas. The Davis brothers established the Davis Coal and Coke Company, ultimately constructing over a hundred coke ovens—some of which remain—to process the raw coal before shipping it to fire the steel mills of Pittsburgh. Later in 1884, the railroad reached Davis via the 6.3-mile Francis grade, opening up the surrounding timberland to development.<sup>6</sup> James Parsons and his wife moved to Davis in 1884 and, as the first residents of the new town, began surveying and grading the street alignment. The principal roads were named after the Davis brothers: Henry, Thomas, and William. The railroad ran just south of William Avenue, with a small passenger and freight depot building located at the southeast corner of William Avenue and Fourth Street, adjacent to the plot where the National Bank of Davis building would be constructed some eight years later.

Farmers scattered throughout Tucker County had long relied upon timbering to sustain them through the off-season, but their mills were inefficient, and products had to be shipped to market by the Cheat River, a time-consuming and therefore not highly profitable endeavor. The arrival of the railroad essentially made these small-scale operations obsolete and led to the creation of several large sawmills in the area. In 1886, J. L. Rumbarger began running a band sawmill in the yet-unincorporated Davis, strategically located between the railroad tracks and the Blackwater River. It would later be called Blackwater Lumber and Boom Company, and then the Babcock Lumber and Boom Company.<sup>7</sup> In less than a decade, the sprawling lumberyard spanned the riverfront from Fifth to Third Streets (Figure 7). A second, smaller mill, Beaver Creek Lumber, located along the west bank of Beaver Creek at the terminus of Henry Avenue, was also established in 1886. Also in 1886, a New York partnership, Fairweather and LaDew, constructed a large tannery at the southwestern extent of town, where the railroad alignment began to make its turn east to follow the river bank. Relying on the byproducts of logging to process leather, the facility was sold to the U.S. Leather Company and served

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> W. Raymond Hicks, "The West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh Railway," *The Railway and Locomotive Historical Society* 113 (October 1965), 7.

<sup>7</sup> Julie Laura Foster, *The Rise, Fall, and Recovery of West Virginia Boom Towns: Creating a Preservation Plan for Davis, Thomas, and Coketon, West Virginia*, Master's Thesis (Columbia University, 2009), 22.

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for many years as one of the largest tanning operations in the country.<sup>8</sup> Davis and his brothers formed Marshall Coal and Lumber Company, a subsidiary of the Davis Coal and Coke Company, in 1889 to operate a coal mine in Thomas and supply raw timber for the new mills in Davis.<sup>9</sup>



Figure 7. Babcock Lumber and Boom, c. 1900. Courtesy Tucker County Historic Landmarks Commission.

The arrival of the railroad encouraged the development of not only large-scale sawmills and tanneries in the fledgling town, but also residences, commercial businesses, offices, and transportation-related operations. As railroad traffic increased, Davis's West Virginia Central and Pittsburg Railway constructed the Blackwater Hotel at the northwest corner of William Avenue and 4<sup>th</sup> Street in 1886. In 1889, the town of Davis was officially incorporated. At an elevation of 3,100 feet Davis became and remains the highest incorporated town in the state.<sup>10</sup> Although named after Henry Gassaway Davis, the 1890 population of 918 unofficially called it "Stumptown" due to the presence of thousands of tree stumps left behind by the clearing of the area's dense forest (Figure 8).<sup>11</sup> A power plant was constructed at the mouth of Beaver Creek to supply residents and business owners in Davis with electricity in 1893.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Ibid, 23.

<sup>9</sup> Acts of the Legislature of West Virginia, at its Nineteenth Regular Session, Commencing January 9, 1889 (Charleston: Moses W. Donnally Public Printer, 1889), 630.

<sup>10</sup> Ken Sullivan and Deborah J. Sonis, *The West Virginia Encyclopedia* (Charleston: West Virginia Humanities Council, 2006), 498.

<sup>11</sup> Cynthia A. Phillips, *Images of America: Tucker County* (Chicago: Arcadia Publishing, 2005), 73.

<sup>12</sup> Foster, 21.

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*Figure 8. Clearing of land for Davis, c. 1884. Courtesy Tucker County Historic Landmarks Commission.*

By 1894, just five years after incorporation, the new town was fully built out with dwellings, a town hall, a public school, churches, grocery stores, billiard halls, and various specialty stores.<sup>13</sup> The population had grown steadily since the initial clearing of Davis ten years earlier, with many families moving to the area to work at the various mills and factories. In 1895, the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company constructed a large plant at the east bank of Beaver Creek near the Blackwater River. Not surprisingly, all of the major residential, commercial, and industrial construction that took place in Davis during this period was of wood frame, as evidenced by Sanborn fire insurance maps of the era. The only exception to this rule was the three-story stone bank building that stood at the southwest corner of William Avenue and 4<sup>th</sup> Street, the National Bank of Davis.

*Prosperity and the National Bank of Davis*

As had been the case in Piedmont, Henry's numerous business ventures in Davis, including the railroad, Blackwater Hotel, and Marshall Coal and Lumber Company necessitated a means by which to manage the area's financial assets. On December 20, 1892, Henry chartered the first bank in Tucker County, the National Bank of Davis. His brother, Thomas Beall Davis, was made president of the new institution, and his nephew by marriage, Fairfax Stuart Landstreet, was named vice president. The imposing stone building which would

<sup>13</sup> Sanborn-Perris Map Company, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps: Davis, Tucker County, WV (New York: 1894), 1-3.

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house the bank, designed by Pittsburgh architect Frederick C. Sauer, had been completed earlier in the year.<sup>14</sup> The U.S. Post Office and H. M. P. Clarke Drug Company began operating from the first-floor storefront concurrent with the opening of the bank (Figure 9). Offices for Davis's Marshall Coal and Lumber Company were located on the second floor, along with apartments. The third floor hosted meetings of the Masonic Fairfax Lodge No. 96, chartered in 1893.<sup>15</sup>



Figure 9. National Bank of Davis, c. 1900. Courtesy Tucker County Historic Landmarks Commission.

Spurred by the booming local economy, Davis had its greatest spike in population between 1890 and 1900, when the population increased by 160% to 2,391, per census tallies.<sup>16</sup> By this time, eighty businesses were located in Davis, including an opera house, saloons, and multiple medical facilities.<sup>17</sup> Until 1900, all of the county's wealth passed through the National Bank of Davis. The security of the bank and its contents was clearly of some concern to Davis during this time, as evidenced by its construction type and placement. At the turn of the century, the building was not only the single "fireproof" building in town, due to its stone construction, but was also relatively isolated along the south side of William Avenue, the closest buildings being the train depot and the fire department (Figure 10). With the exception of a small wood frame pavilion

<sup>14</sup> Pearle G. Mott, *History of Davis and Canaan Valley* (Parsons, WV: McClain Printing Company, 1972), 167.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid*, 354.

<sup>16</sup> United States Census Bureau, Twelfth Census of Population and Housing, 1900, Davis, WV.

<sup>17</sup> Margaret Calwell, *Speak to the Past: A Memoir Fat with Words* (Parsons, WV: McClain Printing Company, 2000), 3.

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about 40 feet to the west, a considerable amount of open land separated the bank from these wooden structures (Figure 11).<sup>18</sup> Along with the 1900 establishment of Tucker County Bank in Parsons, the creation of Miners and Merchants Bank in Thomas in 1902 provided some additional competition for the bank in Davis.<sup>19</sup>

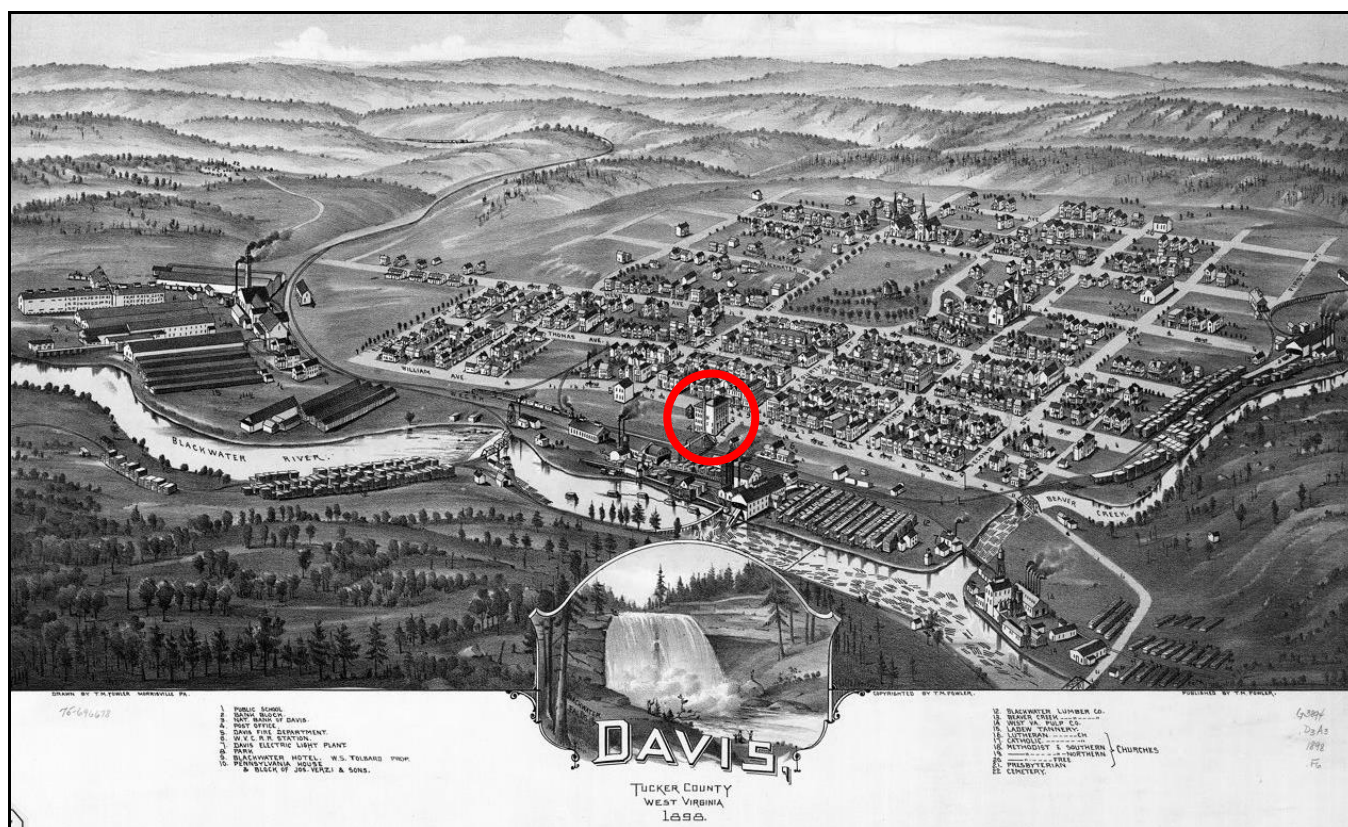


Figure 10. 1898 Birds-eye view map of Davis, with National Bank Building circled. Courtesy Tucker County Historic Landmarks Commission.

The West Virginia Central and Pittsburg Railway was transferred to investors in 1902 and sold to the Western Maryland Railway Company in 1905.<sup>20</sup> Despite the exponential economic growth of the area, the means by which this prosperity had been achieved began to cause major unforeseen complications. In 1907, shipping and transportation throughout the region were disrupted as a result of the Great Flood of the Monongahela River, caused by soil erosion resulting from the clear-cutting of large tracts of forest land. The West Virginia Conservation Commission was formed the following year and acquired 7,200 acres of private land for the creation of the Monongahela National Forest.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Sanborn-Perris Map Company, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps: Davis, Tucker County, WV (New York: 1894), 3.

<sup>19</sup> Foster, 20.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid, 19.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid, 25-26.

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Figure 11. Photograph illustrating pavilion to west of bank building, c. 1910. Courtesy Tucker County Historic Landmarks Commission.

*Decline of Industry in the Blackwater Region*

The town of Davis continued to grow modestly into 1910, however, by 1914, most of the surrounding forests were clear-cut, forcing the lumber industry to slow considerably. Forest fires began to occur with some frequency as sparks from passing trains lit saplings and other kindling left behind by timbering operations.<sup>22</sup> By this time, Davis was 92 years old and in failing health. His business partner, son-in-law Stephen B. Elkins, had died three years earlier at age 70. A substantial addition to the west and south sides of the building was completed in 1915 (Figure 12). The addition essentially mirrored the existing three-story wing to the west and extended the basement and first stories fifteen feet to the south. The addition provided additional space for the operations of the National Bank of Davis and allowed for the relocation of the Post Office in the new, larger west wing. The former post office and adjacent storefront were combined into a single space, and a drug store and soda fountain soon began operations out of the enlarged space. By the time the addition was completed, a large general store and seven two-story houses had been constructed between the bank building and the fire department 350 feet to the west.<sup>23</sup> Despite this new construction activity, the lot directly west of the bank building remained—and remains today—undeveloped.

<sup>22</sup> New South Associates, "Historic Resources Inventory: West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh Railway," November 12, 2008, 43.

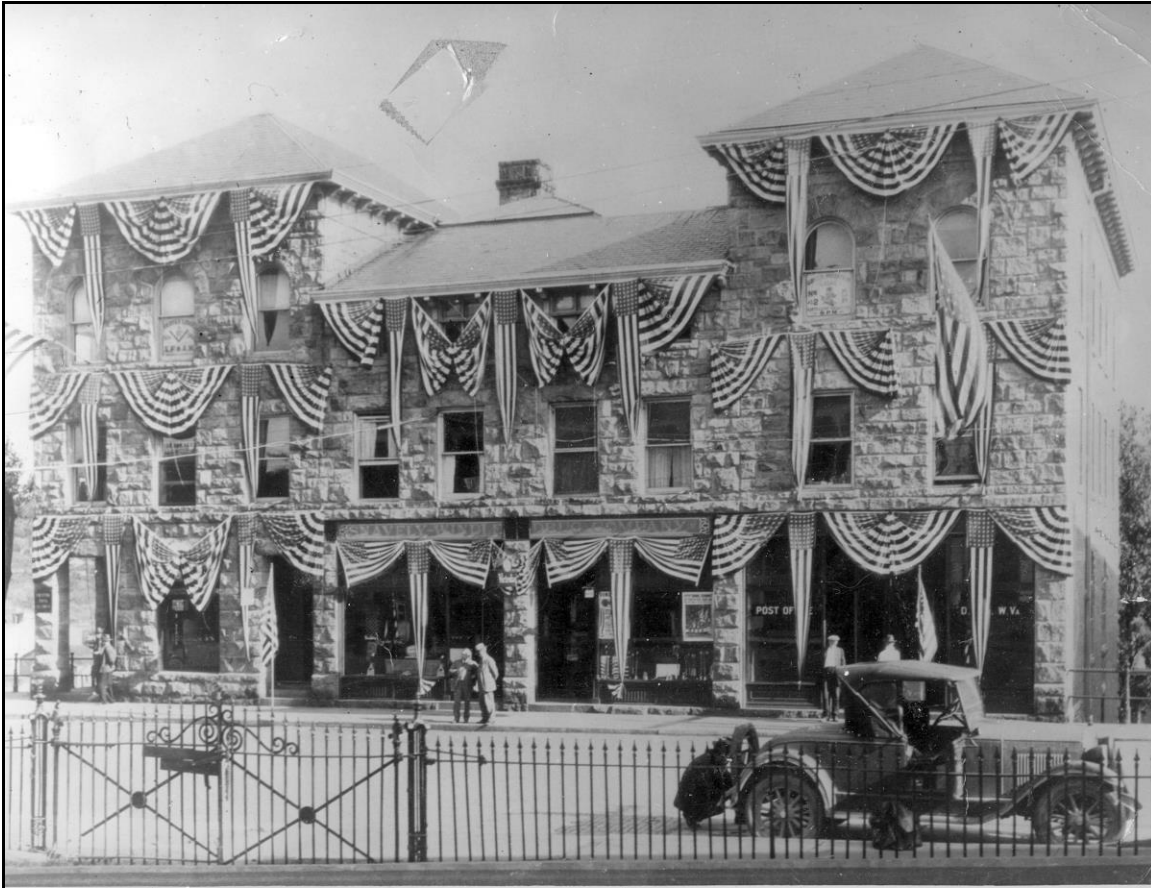
<sup>23</sup> Sanborn-Perris Map Company, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps: Davis, Tucker County, WV (New York: 1915), 3.

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*Figure 12. Photograph illustrating the 1915 western addition to building, c. 1925. Courtesy Tucker County Historic Landmarks Commission.*

Both the U.S. Leather Company plant and the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Mill closed due to labor strikes in 1919. In 1924, with the available timber having been depleted, the Babcock Lumber and Boom Company was forced to close.<sup>24</sup> In 1920, the population of Davis had begun to drop, a trend which continued steadily for the next sixty years. Despite this decline in population, a few families remained in town and ran businesses, attended churches, and participated in social and charitable organizations which helped to sustain the local economy. The Duncan Telephone Company was established in 1912 and moved to the second floor of the National Bank of Davis building in 1920. Meyer Insurance office, local attorneys, and a dental office also operated from the second floor of the building. Along with the Masons, the third floor served as the home of the Order of the Eastern Star, a branch of the Freemasons open to women. The second third-floor lodge room was used by both the Davis Woman's Club, Knights of Pythias, and American Legion.<sup>25</sup> The

<sup>24</sup> Foster, 23-24.

<sup>25</sup> Mott, 168.

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Davis Woman's Club organized a public library in 1930 and soon moved the library to the bank building.<sup>26</sup> During these years, the building served as not only the economic and postal center of Davis, but also as a vital element of the burgeoning social and educational needs that arose as the town grew.

*Conservation and a Shifting Economy*

With entire tracts of land, such as Dolly Sods, left infertile and scarred from years of logging and subsequent fires, additional conservation efforts were undertaken.<sup>27</sup> In 1920, Woodrow Wilson designated the Monongahela National Forest a national park. Blackwater Falls State Park was established two miles southwest of Davis in 1934 by the newly-formed West Virginia State Park Commission.<sup>28</sup> New Deal programs sought to reforest the ecological wildernesses left behind by timbering of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.<sup>29</sup> After the West Virginia Central and Pittsburg was bought by the Western Maryland Railroad in 1905, rail service to Davis ceased entirely in 1942.<sup>30</sup> The population of Davis saw its largest decline yet between 1950 and 1960, when the population dropped from nearly 1,300 to 900. By this time, the physical remnants of the former industries in Davis had been largely deconstructed, including the paper mill, lumber yard, and tannery.<sup>31</sup>

Despite this, conservationists saw the opportunity for the development of nature tourism in the area, which was beginning to recover from the industrial age. Blackwater Falls State Park lodge and cabins were constructed in 1957.<sup>32</sup> Canaan Valley Resort State Park was constructed 8 miles south of Davis in 1963, directing additional traffic through town.<sup>33</sup> Ultimately, Monongahela National Forest was expanded into 1.6 million acres, and today, most of Tucker County is protected by this designation.<sup>34</sup> During these years, the National Bank of Davis building continued to be occupied by the bank, post office, professional offices, apartments, and various fraternal organizations. The Davis Tourist Center also occupied the building during these years. In order to better keep up with the times, a small drive-through teller building was constructed immediately west of the building circa 1975. Although not a contributing resource, the former drive-through stands today as a reminder of the historic use of the bank building, and speaks to the continued significance of the bank to the local economy through the remainder of the twentieth century.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid, 386.

<sup>27</sup> The area today known as Dolly Sods was once home to an expansive spruce-hemlock-black cherry forest. As the trees in the forest were harvested and hauled away to mills, railroad sparks ignited small branches left behind by loggers and a series of fires began to sweep the land. In 1916, the federal government purchased most of the charred land for the creation of the Monongahela National Forest.

<sup>28</sup> Foster, 27.

<sup>29</sup> New South Associates, 49.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid, 19.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid, 24.

<sup>32</sup> Bob Downing, "Breathtaking vistas flow around W. Va's Blackwater Falls," Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, December 5, 2010, <https://www.post-gazette.com/life/travel/2010/12/05/Breathtaking-vistas-flow-around-W-Va-s-Blackwater-Falls/stories/201012050250>, accessed September 24, 2019.

<sup>33</sup> West Virginia State Parks, "Canaan Valley Resort State Park, Davis, West Virginia," <https://wvstateparks.com/park/canaan-valley-resort-state-park/>, accessed September 25, 2019.

<sup>34</sup> Foster, 26.

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Despite the rapidly-shifting economy of Davis in the second half of the twentieth century, the National Bank of Davis continued to operate from the building until 2000, when a new bank building was constructed one-half mile to the east. In 2005, the National Bank of Davis was absorbed by Grant County Bank, which continues to operate from the building at 991 William Avenue. The 1892 building passed into private ownership following the relocation of the bank. While the post office remains in operation within the west wing, the other first-floor storefront spaces house various commercial tenants, including a gift shop in the former bank lobby. The second floor houses apartments and private offices, and the third floor retains the lodge space—now housing a video production company—and apartments. The bank building is unique among historic buildings in that it has been occupied continuously since its construction. This characteristic is indicative of both the flexibility of the building's architectural features, allowing for successful iterations of adaptive reuse, and of the economic significance of the building, particularly in its association with a long-standing financial institution. Representing the sole bank in Davis for 108 years and housing the U.S. Post Office since its construction in 1892, the building played a central role in the development, adaptation, and preservation of the economy of Davis through into the twenty-first century.

*Criterion A: Economy*

When Tucker County was created from part of Randolph County by the Virginia legislature in 1856, the heavily-forested land was nearly impossible to traverse, and economic activity within the county was limited to a few isolated farms. While these farmers had long carried out the small-scale export of timber products to sustain their families in the off-season, it wasn't until the 1880s that the county received a railroad connection allowing for the transportation of these products to large east coast cities. The resulting spread of industrial timber, coal, leather, and paper production created thousands of jobs, spurring development and the creation of small towns, such as Thomas and Davis, outfitted with all the modern conveniences of the time, from bakeries to saddleries to saloons. This development created a sudden need for financial institutions to manage wealth and facilitate business transactions. As no such companies existed within the county at the time, the establishment of a bank was left up to the most wealthy citizens or businessmen operating from the area.

In 1892, railroad-employee-turned-mogul Henry Gassaway Davis established Tucker County's first bank and financed the construction of its headquarters in Davis. The National Bank of Davis continued to operate as the only bank in the county until the establishment of the Tucker County Bank in Parsons in 1900. Two years later, Miners and Merchant's Bank was founded in neighboring Thomas. Despite the presence of these institutions, the National Bank of Davis continued to operate from the building as the sole bank in Davis until 2000. During the twentieth century, the bank benefited early on from timbering operations in the Blackwater region, then weathered the unforeseen economic and ecological disasters that would follow. The bank continued operations as the local economy shifted toward the conservation of natural resources and tourism, and was sufficiently active to necessitate the construction of a drive-through teller building in the mid-1970s. The original construction materials and placement of the building within the landscape of Davis,

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removed from any risk of fire in a town constructed entirely of wood-frame buildings, speak to its economic significance to its founders, the town, and the county during its early years of operation. Although the building is no longer used as a bank, both interior and exterior features of the former bank are still present and largely unaltered and speak to the significance of the building in the economic development of the county. The National Bank of Davis is significant at the local level under *Criterion A: Economics*.

*Criterion C: Architecture*

Frederick C. Sauer was a first-generation German-American architect who established a practice in Pittsburgh in 1884. Born in Stuttgart in 1860, he studied as an architect, mason, and carpenter before moving to Pittsburgh at nineteen. His large body of commissioned work, including churches, schools, and houses, worked strictly within popular styles of the time and are described as prosaic. His identified commissioned works are Richardsonian Romanesque or Gothic Revival and prominently feature ashlar sandstone, half-round arched windows, and other tenets of these respective styles, without a strong personal stylistic influence. Later, personal projects, such as an enclave of private residences and related structures in Aspinwall, Pennsylvania (NR Reference No. 85002296), were more experimental in nature, combining various styles into a whimsical and eclectic composition.

Catholic Churches in Pittsburgh and the surrounding areas make up the bulk of his portfolio: the 1891 St. Stanislaus Kostka Roman Catholic Church in Pittsburgh (NR Reference No. 72001089), the 1895 St. Mary Magdalene Church in Homestead, the 1896 St. Mary of the Mount Church in Pittsburgh, the 1900-1904 former Saint Nicholas Croatian Catholic Church in Pittsburgh (razed 2013), and the 1922 St. Nicholas Croatian Church in Millvale (NR Reference No. 80003404). An 1892 residence in the Romanesque Revival style with Flemish Revival influences was constructed in McKeesport for Dr. Henry W. Hitzrot, but was demolished in 2014. A 1963 article on Sauer's work in Aspinwall described him as "sound, well-trained, practical, and business-like," and his work as "Representative and typical of his time and place, [...] without imagination; he knew exactly what his American public wanted and he gave it to them. He was (and is) the backbone, if not the heart and soul of his profession."<sup>35</sup>

Sauer's 1898 Latimer School (NR Reference No. 86002676) is the most characteristically-similar to the National Bank of Davis in its use of bracketed eaves, half-round arched windows, and substantial rectangular massing. Both structures take these elements directly from the Richardsonian Romanesque style, which was nationally popular in the United States between 1880 and 1900. Inspired by medieval castles and the historic precedence of Roman massing and forms, Louisiana-born architect Henry Hobson Richardson introduced the use of heavy, rough-faced masonry walls, half-rounded arched openings, and decoration achieved through the use of varied masonry colors or textures. While the bulk of Richardson's extant work is located in New York and eastern Pennsylvania, his style was nationally popular during the late nineteenth century, particularly in the Mid-Atlantic region.

<sup>35</sup> James D. Van Trump, "An Architect's Fantastic Demesne Near Pittsburgh," *The Charette* 43, no. 3 (1963), 9.

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The Richardsonian Romanesque style is used in prominent buildings throughout West Virginia, from Stewart Hall at West Virginia University (NR Reference No. 80004034) to the Kanawha County Courthouse in Charleston (NR Reference No. 78002801); however, the National Bank of Davis stands as the only example of the style in Davis, where timber- and balloon-frame construction was favored due to the abundant availability of wood building products during the development of the town. Part of the reason for the stone construction of the Bank building can be gathered from a careful observation of the surrounding development at the turn of the century. Not only was the building the only “fireproof” structure in Davis, but it was also isolated from adjacent combustible structures, with the closest building housing the Fire Department. The architectural style, construction type, and positioning of the building convey its economic importance to the town of Davis.

The largely-unaltered National Bank of Davis retains integrity of setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, despite its change in use and the development of the surrounding land. The National Bank of Davis is eligible for listing at the local level of significance under *Criterion C: Architecture*.

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**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 25

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National Bank of Davis

Name of Property

Tucker County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The nominated boundary encompasses the bank and former drive-through buildings, along with the paved parking lot spanning the two buildings. Refer to dashed red boundary line on accompanying sketch map.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The nominated boundary includes the entire legal parcel encompassing the land historically associated with the bank building at the intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> Street and William Avenue. Refer to dashed red boundary line on accompanying sketch map.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
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**Continuation Sheet**

National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      26

**PHOTO LOG**

**Name of Property:**                      **National Bank of Davis**  
**City or Vicinity:**                      **Davis**  
**County:**                                      **Tucker**  
**State:**                                        **West Virginia**  
**Photographer:**                        **William Peterson; Mills Group**  
**Date Photographed:**                **September-December 2019**

Photos 1-5 (Photographer: William Peterson)

Photo 1              Town of Davis with National Bank of Davis at center, facing northwest.  
 Photo 2              Overview of building and setting, facing southwest.  
 Photo 3              East elevation, facing west.  
 Photo 4              South elevation and adjacent former drive-up building, facing north.  
 Photo 5              West elevation, facing east.

Photos 6-19 (Photographer: Mills Group)

Photo 6              Overview of building from William Avenue, facing southeast.  
 Photo 7              Overview of building from William Avenue, facing southwest.  
 Photo 8              Interior view of 1892 sandstone foundation construction from basement, facing northwest.  
 Photo 9              Interior view of 1915 terra cotta block foundation construction from basement, facing southeast.  
 Photo 10            Interior view of former bank in east wing, first floor, facing south.  
 Photo 11            Interior view of historic bank vault door and surround, facing southwest.  
 Photo 12            Detail view of painted doors on internal vault safe, facing south.  
 Photo 13            Interior view of vault space with internal safe, facing southwest.  
 Photo 14            Interior view of post office space in west wing, facing southeast.  
 Photo 15            Interior view of third-floor Masonic Lodge space, facing south.  
 Photo 16            Interior view of curved walls on second floor, facing southwest.  
 Photo 17            Interior view of stairway from first to second floors, facing south.  
 Photo 18            Interior view of stairway from second to third floors, facing northwest.  
 Photo 19            Interior view of modernized first floor central bay, facing northeast.

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**Continuation Sheet**

National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      27



*Photo 1. Town of Davis with National Bank of Davis at center, facing northwest.*

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National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 2. Overview of building and setting, facing southwest.*

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National Bank of Davis

Name of Property

Tucker County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      29



*Photo 3. East elevation, facing west.*

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National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 4. South elevation and adjacent former drive-up building, facing north.*

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

National Bank of Davis

Name of Property

Tucker County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 5. West elevation, facing east.*

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National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      32



*Photo 6. Overview of building from William Avenue, facing southeast.*

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National Park Service

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**Continuation Sheet**

National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 7. Overview of building from William Avenue, facing southwest.*

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number      Photos      Page      34



*Photo 8. Interior view of 1892 sandstone foundation construction from basement, facing northwest.*

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

National Bank of Davis

Name of Property

Tucker County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 9. Interior view of 1915 terra cotta block foundation construction from basement, facing southeast.*

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National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 10. Interior view of former bank in east wing, first floor, facing south.*

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**Continuation Sheet**

National Bank of Davis

Name of Property

Tucker County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 11. Interior view of historic bank vault door and surround, facing southwest.*

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 12. Detail view of painted doors on internal vault safe, facing south.*

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National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 13. Interior view of vault space with internal safe, facing southwest.*

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National Bank of Davis

Name of Property

Tucker County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 14. Interior view of post office space in west wing, facing southeast.*

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**Continuation Sheet**

National Bank of Davis

Name of Property

Tucker County, West Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 15. Interior view of third-floor Masonic Lodge space, facing south.*

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**Continuation Sheet**

National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 16. Interior view of curved walls on second floor, facing southwest.*

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**Continuation Sheet**

National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 17. Interior view of stairway from first to second floors, facing south.*

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National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 18. Interior view of stairway from second to third floors, facing northwest.*

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

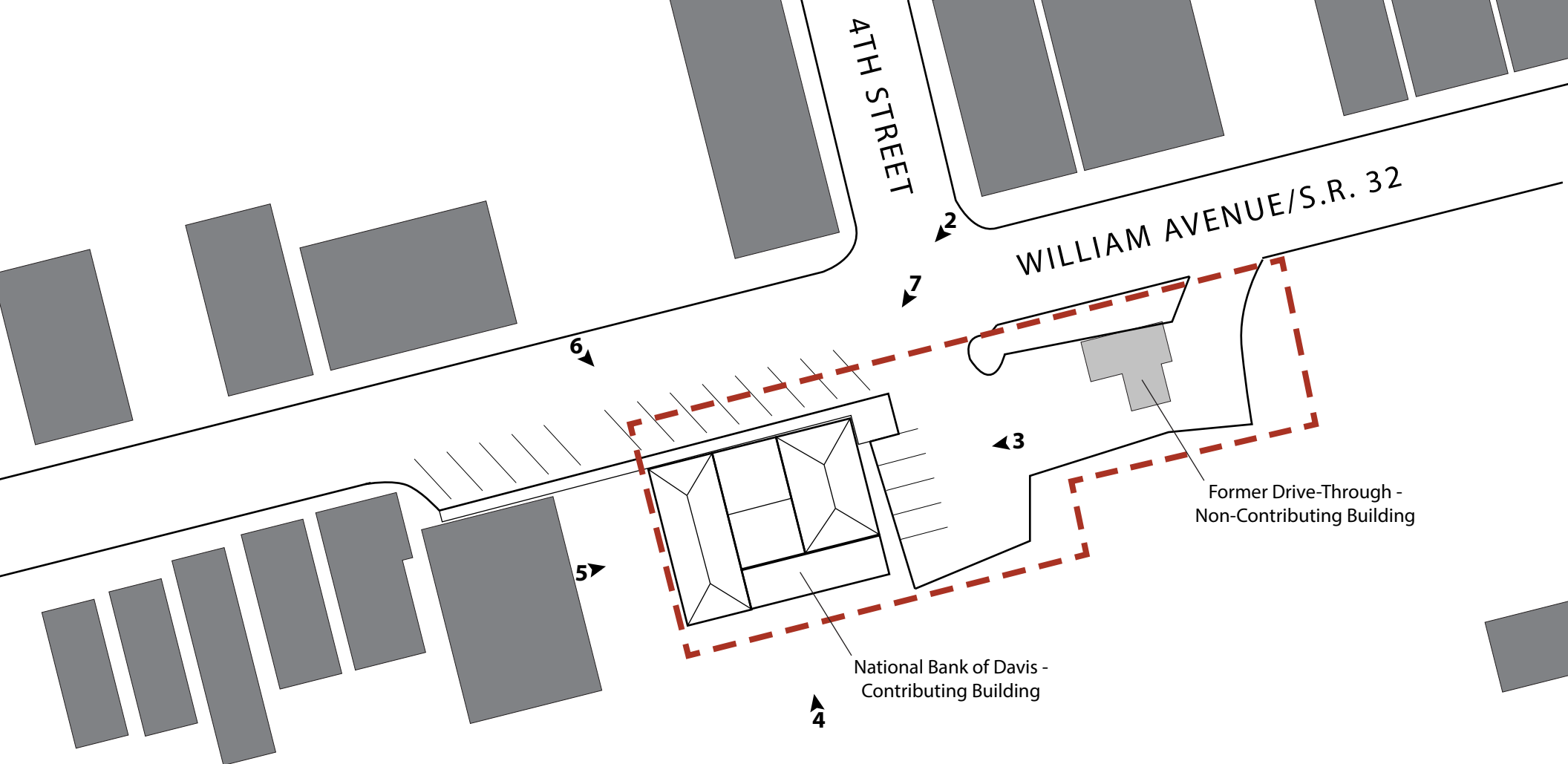
**National Register of Historic Places**  
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National Bank of Davis
Name of Property
Tucker County, West Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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*Photo 19. Interior view of modernized first floor central bay, facing northeast.*



## NATIONAL BANK OF DAVIS

417 William Avenue

Davis, Tucker County, West Virginia



### SKETCH MAP - NOT TO SCALE

Nominated Property Boundary



Photo Vantage Points

1-7 ►

# NATIONAL BANK OF DAVIS

417 William Avenue  
Davis, Tucker County, WV



## USGS Map Section

Davis, WV-MD 2016

## UTM Coordinates

NAD 1983, Zone 17 S

1: 632731, 4332200

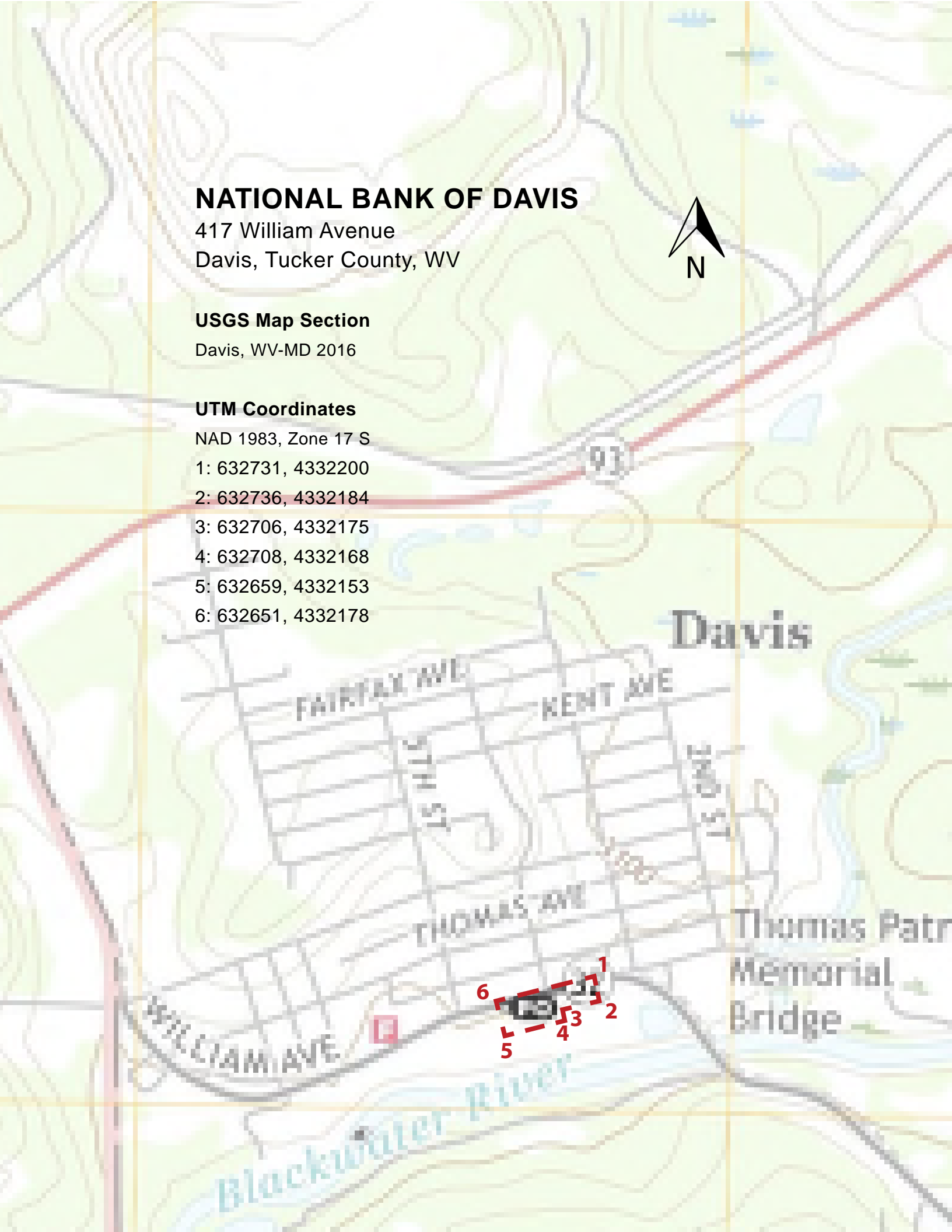
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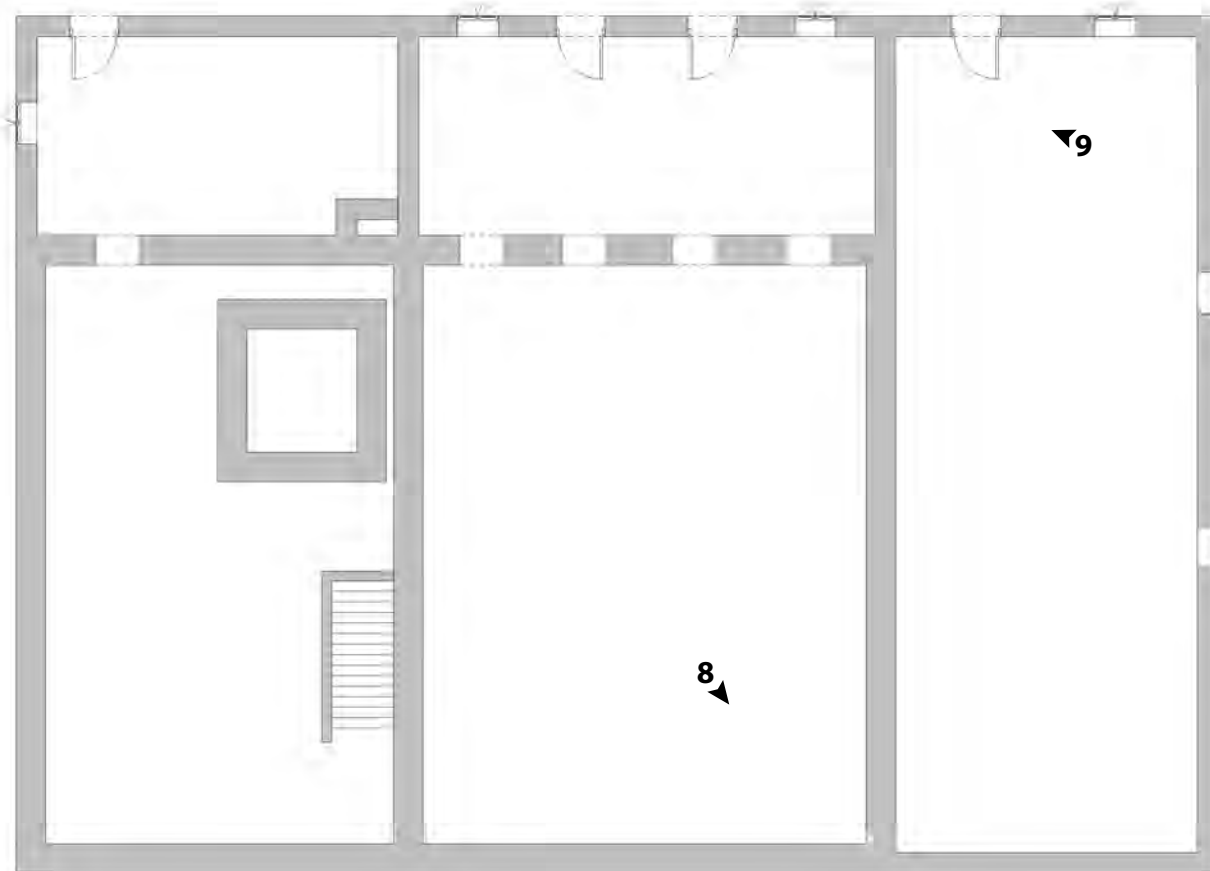
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5: 632659, 4332153

6: 632651, 4332178





# **SKETCH PLAN - NOT TO SCALE**

Photo Vantage Points **8-19**➤

NATIONAL BANK OF DAVIS- 417 WILLIAM AVENUE, DAVIS, WV



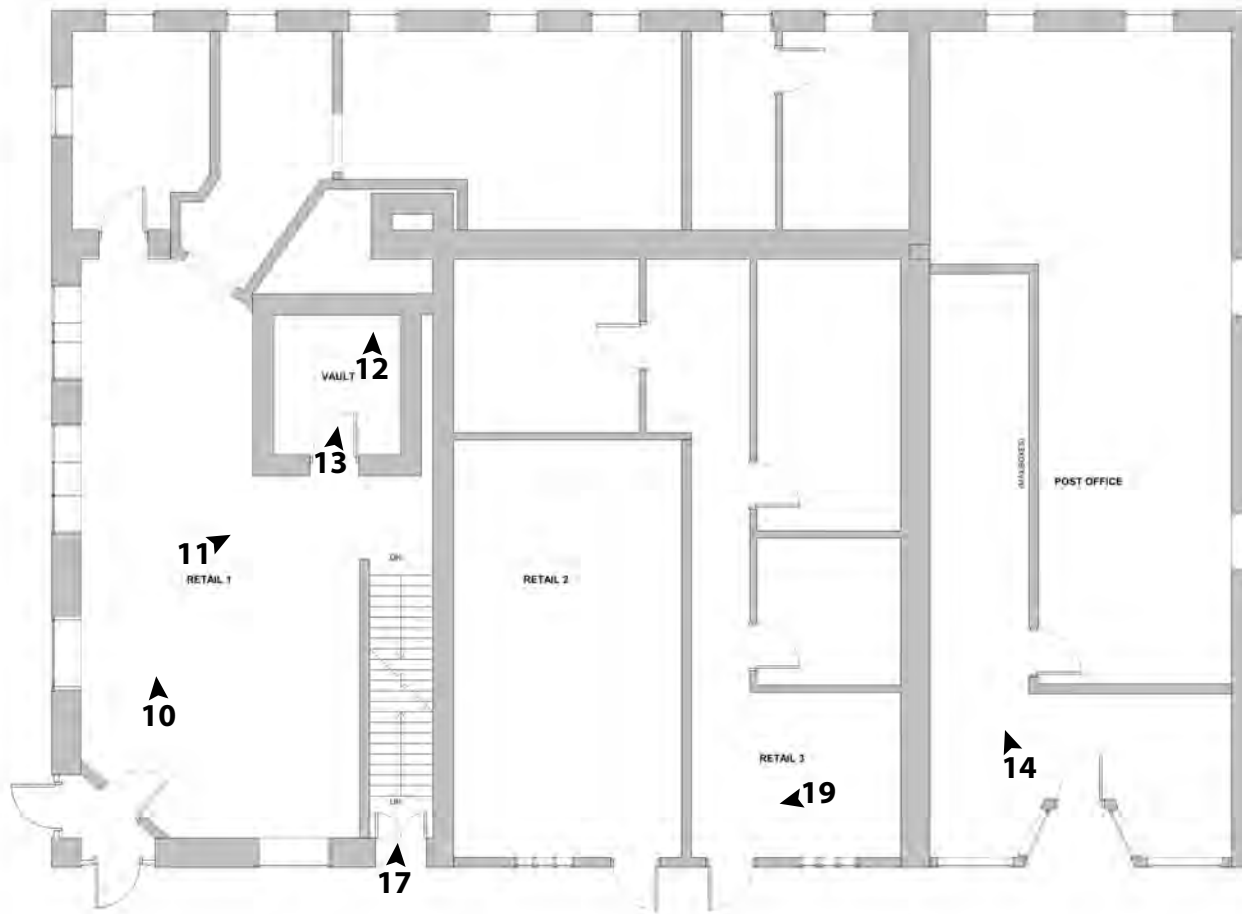
63 WHARF STREET, SUITE 300  
MORGANTOWN, WV 26501



SHEET A100

09/27/19

**BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN**



## SKETCH PLAN - NOT TO SCALE

Photo Vantage Points **8-19** ➤

NATIONAL BANK OF DAVIS- 417 WILLIAM AVENUE, DAVIS, WV

**MILLS GROUP**  
ARCHITECTURE • PLANNING • PRESERVATION

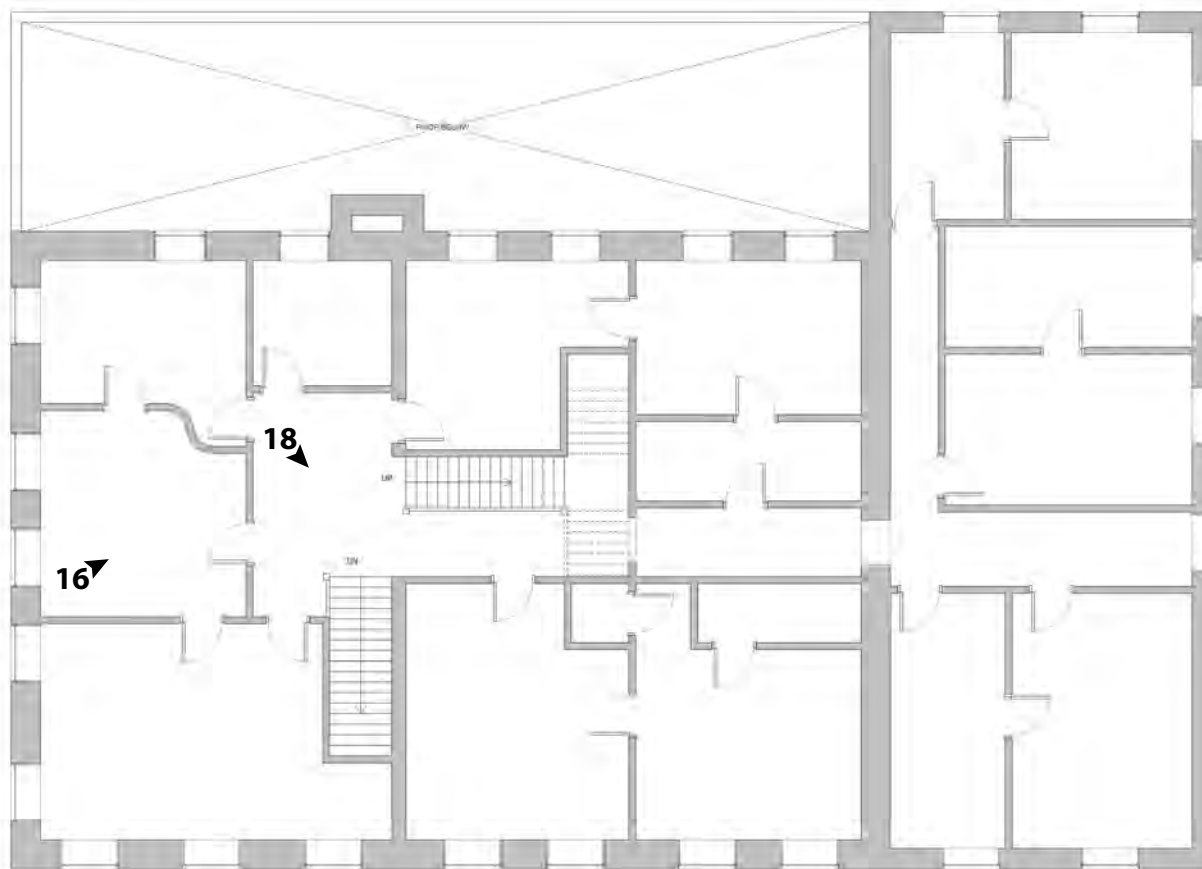
63 WHARF STREET, SUITE 300  
MORGANTOWN, WV 26501



SHEET A101

09/27/19

LEVEL 1 FLOOR PLAN



## SKETCH PLAN - NOT TO SCALE

Photo Vantage Points **8-19**

NATIONAL BANK OF DAVIS- 417 WILLIAM AVENUE, DAVIS, WV

**MILLS GROUP**  
ARCHITECTURE • PLANNING • PRESERVATION

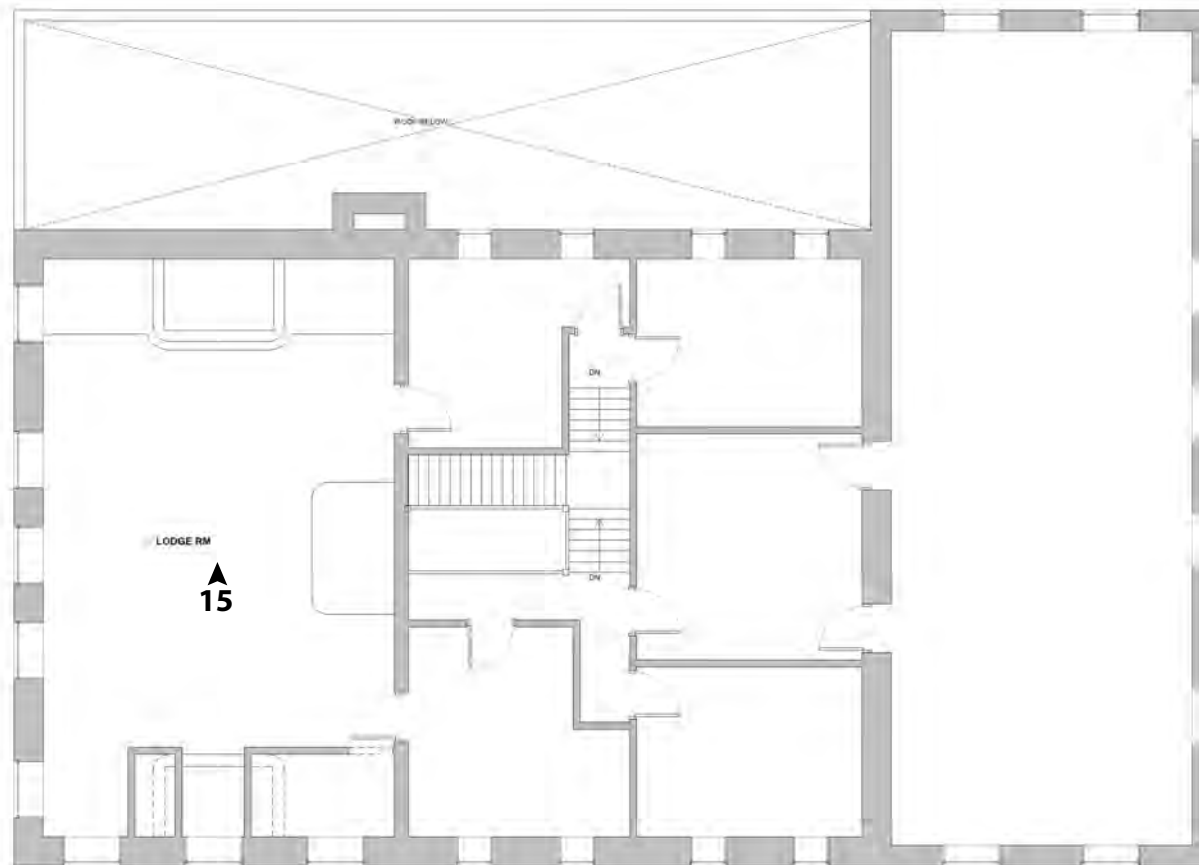
63 WHARF STREET, SUITE 300  
MORGANTOWN, WV 26501



SHEET A102

09/27/19

LEVEL 2 FLOOR PLAN



## SKETCH PLAN - NOT TO SCALE

Photo Vantage Points **8-19** ➤

NATIONAL BANK OF DAVIS- 417 WILLIAM AVENUE, DAVIS, WV

**in MILLS GROUP**  
ARCHITECTURE • PLANNING • PRESERVATION

63 WHARF STREET, SUITE 300  
MORGANTOWN, WV 26501



SHEET A103

09/27/19

LEVEL 3 FLOOR PLAN