United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property
   Historic name: THE PEOPLE'S BANK
   Other name/site number: ___________________________

2. Location
   Street & number: 3303 MAIN STREET
   City/town: WEIRTON
   Vicinity: N/A
   State: WV  County: HANCOCK  Code: 029  Zip code: 26062

3. Classification
   Ownership of Property: PRIVATE
   Category of Property: BUILDING

Number of Resources within Property:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0 buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0 sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0 structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0 objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0 Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related property listing: N/A
4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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. ___ See continuation sheet.

Signature of Certifying Official __________ Date ____________

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property

___ meets
___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official __________ Date ____________

State or Federal agency and bureau __________

Date ____________

5. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.

___ determined eligible for the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.

___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___

___ removed from the National Register ___

___ other (explain): ________________

Signature of Keeper __________ Date of Action __________
4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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

meets

does not meet

the National Register Criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of Certifying Official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property

meets

does not meet

the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau Date

5. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain):

Signature of Keeper Date of Action
6. Function or Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historic:</th>
<th>COMMERCE/TRADE</th>
<th>Sub:</th>
<th>FINANCIAL INSTITUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current:</td>
<td>COMMERCE/TRADE</td>
<td>Sub:</td>
<td>BUSINESS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Description

Architectural Classification:
LATE 19TH CENTURY & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS
- CLASSICAL REVIVAL, WITH GREEK INFLUENCE

Other Description: 

Materials: foundation concrete, roof rubberized membrane, walls brick, other limestone details

Describe present and historic physical appearance.
X See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: 1930 - 1944

Significant Dates: 1930

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: PETERSON & CLARKE - architectural firm Cattrell, Clyde - contractor

State significance of property, and justify criteria, considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.
Previous documentation on file (NPS): 

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

Primary Location of Additional Data:
State historic preservation office
Other state agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other -- Specify Repository: ________________________________

10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing

17 535280 4472180

Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet.
CF (Cyrus Ferguson) AL Block A Lots 3-4 Main Street
80.44' x 120'

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.
The nominated property constitutes the tract of land historically associated with the building.

11. Form Prepared By
Name/Title: Katherine Jourdan
Organization: Northern Office WV SHPO Date: November 1994
Street & Number: 1528 Market Street Telephone: (304) 238-1300
City or Town: Wheeling State: WV Zip: 26003

Property Owner
Name: Vic Greco, JVG Enterprises
Street & Number: 124 Mellon Street Telephone: (304) 233-0048
City or Town: Weirton State: WV Zip: 26062
The People's Bank which began serving the Hollidays Cove and Weirton area in 1930 is a small Classical Revival building exhibiting Greek influenced details. The bank is nestled in the heart of what was Hollidays Cove at a main intersection of Main Street and Cove Road. The bank is one story with a lower level, the front portion of the building being of greater height than the rear due to the interior space of the main lobby. The front facade is of cream glazed brick with Indiana limestone details. The center entrance has double doors with an overhead transom, and limestone moulding with "THE PEOPLES BANK" inscribed over the door in stone and topped by dentils under a cornice piece. The three pieces, plaque, dentils and cornice form an entablature. A high water table of limestone runs across the front or east facade. Flanking the doorway are light fixtures with metal arms holding a glass globe. A brass night depository is to the right side of the entrance. Large multiple 20 light windows with aluminum frame are to each side, and over the door is a 10 light window. These all have flat lintels. Dividing the window areas are slightly projecting pilasters with a limestone capital. At the outer edge of the front facade are more pronounced pilasters which are wide with a Greek key pattern at the top. Between these outer pilasters and running over the windows is an entablature with a deep frieze area and dentils under a cornice. The top of the building is a parapet wall with larger hodillion blocks, with a slight egg design in the recess, across the top.

The south wall is against the neighboring building. The north side is a flat wall of tan/orange brick and drops to a lower height in the rear. A gravel drive is along the north side and leads to metal stairs rising to the north side property and parking area which is elevated on a hillside. A front property wall of matching white brick runs to the north of the gravel drive and steps up with a concrete coping. The rear wall backs up against a metal retaining wall.

On the interior, the front doors lead to a small vestibule with tan domestic marble floor, and wainscot, and a side brass ventilating grate. Decorative moulding is at the ceiling cornice. A second set of double doors lead into what was the main banking area with approximately 20 foot ceilings, marble floors, and Imported Botticino Marble wainscoting under the teller windows and as a ledge in a U-shape floorplan. The framework for the windows is walnut wood with small decorative pieces of fleur-de-lis topped by urns. The teller cage openings have a black slate inset on the ledge and brass bars topped by a green/brown piece of glass. This is then topped by a decorative wood cornice. On the back side of the teller cage is a brass light and wooden ledge. The side partitions of the tellers cages have been removed leaving the U-shape wall. A doorway with wood frame is opposite the main entrance and against the back wall is the large steel door to the bank's vault with Diebold locks.

The walls in the main lobby are a stucco plaster with three slight pilasters on each side having curved lamps for uplighting. The restored ceiling is crossed with three dropped lengths from which hang six dropped lights and 3 modern ceiling fans. The top of the pilasters and the moulding at the cornice and crossed lengths matches that in the vestibule.
with an acanthus leaf design in gold, and highlighted with green and dark red painted surfaces. The rear wall has three glass block openings for light and vents underneath.

In the back left corner of the lobby is a stairway leading to the lower level with an alternating twisted spindle painted gold. Across the same back wall of the vault are three doorways, two of which lead in a circle around the vault and have small rooms off to the side. (See enclosed sketch of interior) To the left side of the vault is a room with the remnants of built-in cupboards against the south wall with 5 sets of paired doors. The rear rooms are now in use for storage and dressing areas, while a room off the lobby is for restroom facilities.

The Peoples Bank is a small elegant Classical Revival building with the Greek influence seen in details such as the Greek key on the front facade and the interior use of the acanthus leaf and urns. The lobby was meant to impress with its marble floor, wainscoting, and large vault. The building remained virtually untouched through many years of unoccupancy and has been rehabilitated into a commercial space once again.
The period of significance for the Peoples Bank is 1930 to 1944, covering the time period when the bank constructed a new building in Hollidays Cove into the town’s boom era with World War II. It is important under Criteria A for the expansion and service under commerce, and Criteria C for the architectural design of the building.

The bank was organized on September 20, 1923 by members of the community that felt the area was growing so fast it needed a second banking facility. Originally housed in the Buchanan Building, after six years it was deemed that if the Peoples Bank was to continue to serve the people it needed larger and more dignified quarters with all the modern equipment and conveniences which the larger cities offered. The architectural firm which designed the $50,000 bank was Peterson and Clarke, of Steubenville, Ohio. A building contract was let in May 1929 to the C.S. Cattrell Co. Clyde Cattrell was a former mayor of Hollidays Cove, and was one of the nine directors of the Peoples Bank. At the time he was also a realty developer, and lumber businessman.

The new building was constructed to be fire proof being of concrete, steel, brick and stone. It is forty feet along Main Street and eighty feet in depth. The front facade is Classical Revival in style with Greek details, Indiana Limestone and white face brick with large windows affording ample natural light to the interior. The vestibule opens into a spacious public lobby which extends to the rear of the building. To each side are decorative walnut customer wickets. The counters, vestibule interior, and lobby check desks are of imported Botticino marble with fittings of glass and American Walnut. At the extreme rear of the building are located the vault, directors room bookkeeping room, coupon booths and wash rooms. The interior was originally finished with a light buff color with decorative plaster ceiling beams.

The vault is constructed of concrete walls 2 feet thick reinforced with steel rods and mesh. The vault is protected by a five ton solid steel door furnished by the Diebold Safe and Lock Co., Canton, Ohio, and contained safety deposit boxes for the customers and separate compartment for the storage of the bank's funds. There was also tear gas protection furnished by the Federal Laboratories, Inc. of Pittsburgh, PA.

The first president of the bank was David M. Weir, who helped his brother Ernest establish what became Weirton Steel in 1910, on what was then essentially open ground. At the time of his death in 1929, David Weir was vice-president of Weirton Steel which had expanded over the years and was the main employer of most of the local inhabitants. He was the one who had foreseen the need for a new bank building and had begun the plans before his death.

Weirton Steel was the main employer in the town and was heavily involved in the production of materials used in World War II. The increase in employment and production spurred the growth of the bank and its involvement in local construction, business, etc.

Hollidays Cove was a small crossroads just south of the area near the mill, with a small business district. By today’s standards one might call the building modest in size, but at the time it was built the bank
The Peoples Bank, Main Street, Weirton, WV, Hancock County
Section Number 8  Page 3

presented an elaborate facade and had an excellent location at the intersection of Main Street and Cove Avenue, near the city building of Hollidays Cove. At the time of the opening for the Peoples Bank in February 1930, another bank was also having a grand opening for a new building, the Bank of Weirton. Located at Avenue G and Main Street, this building no longer stands but at the time was probably a competitor.

Other businessmen involved with the Peoples Bank include E.D. Rothrock, cashier, J.E. McHendry, Alfred Mildren, R.C. Morris, D. M. Peterson, H. S. Sinsel, and J.C. Williams, vice-president, who was also president of Weirton Steel, and director of the board of the Bank of Weirton.

Businesses sprang up near the mill north of Hollidays Cove along Main Street with the area becoming known as Weirton. The two towns existed side by side until they were incorporated in 1947, as the city of Weirton.

The Peoples Bank served the people of Hollidays Cove and Weirton through many years including the great depression. Closed in 1962, due to expansion into a larger building with drive-up windows, the building sat undisturbed until it was renovated in 1993. The decorative features of the building have been retained, and the exterior and interior is essentially as it was first constructed.

"E.D. Rothrock Credited with Cove Bank's Success" THE WEIRTON DAILY TIMES, Friday February 14, 1930, p. 1.

"D.M. Weir was Tireless Worker" THE WEIRTON DAILY TIMES, Friday February 14, 1930.

"Bank Builder" THE WEIRTON DAILY TIMES, Friday February 14, 1930.


Interview with Vic Greco by Katherine Jourdan, May and November 1994.
SKETCH - FIRST FLOOR
THE PEOPLES BANK
3383 Main Street, Weirton, WV
DRAWING NOT TO SCALE