

Site Inventory Form
State Historical Society of Iowa
 (November 2005)

State Inventory No. 50-00731

New Supplemental

Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 50-01703

Relationship: Contributing Noncontributing

Contributes to a potential district with yet unknown boundaries

National Register Status:(any that apply) Listed De-listed NHL DOE

9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number _____

Non-Extant (enter year) _____

1. Name of Property

historic name First Newton National Bank

other names/site number Newton National Bank

2. Location

street & number 100 N. 2nd Ave. W.

city or town Newton vicinity, county Jasper

Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name _____ Township No. _____ Range No. _____ Section _____ Quarter of Quarter _____

(If Urban) Subdivision Original Town Block(s) 9 Lot(s) A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification [Skip this Section]

4. National Park Service Certification [Skip this Section]

5. Classification

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Enter number of:	If Eligible Property, enter number of:	
	Contributing	Noncontributing
_____ buildings	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
_____ sites	_____	_____ sites
_____ structures	_____	_____ structures
_____ objects	_____	_____ objects
_____ Total	<u>1</u>	_____ Total

Name of related project report or multiple property study (Enter "N/A" if the property is not part of a multiple property examination).

Title

Downtown Newton, Iowa

Historical Architectural Data Base Number

50-010

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

02D02 COMMERCE/TRADE/Bank

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

02D02 COMMERCE/TRADE/Bank

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

06C EARLY 20TH CENTURY/Classical Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation 10B CONCRETE/Poured

walls (visible material) 04C STONE/Limestone

roof _____

other _____

Narrative Description (SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" representing your opinion of eligibility after applying relevant National Register criteria)

- Yes No More Research Recommended
- Yes No More Research Recommended
- Yes No More Research Recommended
- Yes No More Research Recommended

- A Property is associated with significant events.
- B Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.
- C Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.
- D Property yields significant information in archaeology or history.

County Jasper
City Newton

Address 100 N. 2nd Ave. W.

Site Number 50-00731
District Number 50-01703

Criteria Considerations

- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

02 ARCHITECTURE

05 COMMERCE

Significant Dates

Construction date
1920 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates, including renovation
1989

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

Architect/Builder

Architect
John W. Ross
Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (☒ SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography See continuation sheet for citations of the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form

10. Geographic Data

UTM References (OPTIONAL)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	_____	_____	2	_____	_____
3	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

See continuation sheet for additional UTM references or comments

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ferdinand J. Chabot, Commissioner
organization Newton Historic Preservation Commission
street & number 1700 N 4 Av W
city or town Newton state IA
date 01-15-2012
telephone 641-792-6622
zip code 50208

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION (Submit the following items with the completed form)

FOR ALL PROPERTIES

1. **Map:** showing the property's location in a town/city or township.
2. **Site plan:** showing position of buildings and structures on the site in relation to public road(s).
3. **Photographs:** representative black and white photos. If the photos are taken as part of a survey for which the Society is to be curator of the negatives or color slides, a photo/catalog sheet needs to be included with the negatives/slides and the following needs to be provided below on this particular inventory site:

Roll/slide sheet # _____	Frame/slot # _____	Date Taken _____
Roll/slide sheet # _____	Frame/slot # _____	Date Taken _____
Roll/slide sheet # _____	Frame/slot # _____	Date Taken _____

- See continuation sheet or attached *photo & slide catalog sheet* for list of photo roll or slide entries.
- Photos/illustrations without negatives are also in this site inventory file.

FOR CERTAIN KINDS OF PROPERTIES, INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING AS WELL

1. **Farmstead & District:** (List of structures and buildings, known or estimated year built, and contributing or noncontributing status)
2. **Barn:**
 - a. A sketch of the frame/truss configuration in the form of drawing a typical middle bent of the barn.
 - b. A photograph of the loft showing the frame configuration along one side.
 - c. A sketch floor plan of the interior space arrangements along with the barn's exterior dimensions in feet.

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only Below This Line

Concur with above survey opinion on National Register eligibility: Yes No More Research Recommended
 This is a locally designated property or part of a locally designated district.

Comments: _____

Evaluated by (name/title): _____ Date: _____

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Related District Number 50-01703

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First Newton National Bank	Jasper
Name of Property	County
100 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

5. Classification, cont'd.

The First Newton National Bank is considered a building and counted as a contributing resource to the Newton Downtown Historic District.

7. Description

Site Description

The First Newton National Bank is located at the northeast corner of the Newton city square in the historic downtown of Newton, Iowa in Jasper County. The bank is sited on a tight parcel of land in the northwest quadrant of the intersection of N. 2nd Ave. W. and 1st St. N. On street parking is located on the south and east sides of the building and a public sidewalk provides access to the building on the south and east.

Property Description

The First Newton National Bank is a stone and masonry building constructed on a concrete foundation. The building is visually defined by its utilization of the Greek Revival Style complete with peripteral columns, fully expressed entablature and pediment, monumental scale, and sense of both order and mass.

The bank's façade (south) utilizes a Greek temple front complete with a shallow portico, modified, gigantic Doric columns, pediment with bas relief and mounted antefix, and a typical Doric entablature featuring a simple cornice and architrave with frieze of alternating metopes and triglyphs.

The primary entrance is marked by a recessed opening utilizing a Greek surround, complete with an antefix. Windows on the ground level are diminutive, while those in the upper wall plan are oversized, designed to provide ample natural light into the open interior of the bank lobby.

The gigantic columns, entablature, and window rhythm established on the façade continue to the secondary elevation (east). On this side, the columns are engaged in the wall plane. A walk-up teller window was added at the center of the east elevation, likely filling an existing opening, and subsequently removed. A pedestrian entrance is located at the north end of the east elevation.

An addition to the rear (north) of the bank was made in 1989 to accommodate a drive-through teller line. The addition is comprised of a one-story space, running the full width of the original building. This section houses the drive-through teller line with interior openings to the main building. The drive-through itself is a freestanding canopy with a gable roof. In an effort to appear sympathetic to the historic building, the canopy design employs simple square columns, a hint at a pediment in the gable ends, and is stone-colored. The sole physical connection between the canopy and the original bank is a horizontal shaft of approximately 18-inches square that houses the vacuum tube system for handling the transactions between the automobile customers and the bank teller.

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7. Description, cont'd.

The interior of the bank, with exception of the massive vault door, has been extensively altered and modernized from its 1920 condition.

Integrity Considerations

The First Newton National Bank retains a very good level of integrity as it relates to design, workmanship, and materials with exception of the modern windows in the east facade. However, the effect of the windows is minimized because they are recessed behind the plane of the columns. The new windows, while modern in appearance, were fitted within the original stone lintels and framing. Of particular importance is the retention of the elements which define its Classical inspiration, namely the temple front which shows influence of both Roman and Greek design and its sense of monumentality. The impact of the 1989 addition to the north is diminished because it cannot be seen from the south façade.

8. Statement of Significance

The First Newton National Bank is considered a contributing resource to the Newton Downtown Historic District. The building is eligible under Criterion A in association with the history of Newton commerce, significant in its ability to contribute to our understanding of the evolution of the business district, specifically in its role as a financial institution, and the impact of the business district on the overall economic success of the community of Newton.

The building is also considered eligible under Criterion C, significant in its contribution to the Newton Downtown Historic District as the embodiment of a late 19th/early 20th century commercial district. In its expression of the Greek Revival in a commercial/financial resource, the bank is an excellent example.

Historical Background

Newton was platted as the Jasper County seat in 1847. The commercial district grew up around the courthouse square with the earliest buildings, which commonly housed both commerce and dwellings, constructed of wood. The development of the downtown from its platting in 1846 to c.1890 is tied to its status as the county seat and the 1867 arrival of the Mississippi-Missouri Railroad. The character of the commercial downtown is recorded in images of the contiguous brick commercial Italianate buildings surrounding the courthouse square.

Beginning in the 1890s, it was industry, specifically the washing machine industry, that drove Newton's economy and the commercial success of its downtown. Due to the success and longevity of the Maytag Company, its history presents the greatest impact on Newton's downtown commercial district. From 1890-1920, a period in Maytag history marked by the company's incorporation and the development of the first electrically powered washing machine, a number of significant buildings were constructed in the Newton Downtown District. The addition of these buildings (and others) introduced a 20th century

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8. Statement of Significance, cont'd.

architectural sensibility to the district; moving the visual character away from the Late Victorian era Italianate style that had previously dominated the streetscapes.

During the decade of 1920 to 1930, Newton's population nearly doubled. The period is marked by the Maytag Company's ascension to the nation's leading manufacturer of washing machines. The economic prosperity brought by the company's success is reflected in the Newton Downtown Historic District with the construction of some of its most important buildings including the First Newton National Bank (1920) and the Maytag Hotel (1926). Both buildings lend a sense of importance to the downtown district.

The visual character and composition of the downtown district remained generally constant through the Depression era and war years – a period when industry and commerce (including the Maytag Company) were focused on surviving and on supporting the war effort. The boom that came in the wake of Maytag's 1946 introduction of the automatic washing machine was apparent in the Newton Downtown Historic District by the mid-1950s. Between about 1954 and 1963 the downtown buildings underwent dramatic alteration, a nearly wholesale removal of the Italianate façades and replacement with those reflecting a mid-20th century Modern aesthetic. Buildings altered during that period line the streetscapes of the district. In addition to the Victorian era buildings that were re-faced during this time, a number of new buildings were constructed, their stylistic character reflective of the era.

Although the washing machine industry in Newton is now a thing of the past, its mark on the Newton Downtown Historic District is undeniable.

Property History

The First Newton National Bank's cornerstone indicates that the present bank building construction was completed in 1920. However, the bank was organized in 1882 and was the first national bank chartered in Jasper County. A unique feature of the interior was a set of murals painted on canvas by immigrant artist Trygve Kittelson. These were removed during remodeling in 1962 and donated to the Jasper County Museum where they are now on display. Bank President W.C. Bergman met with the artist in Chicago and instructed him to depict life in Jasper County as it related to four phases of community development: Anticipation, Cooperation, Realization, and Organization. Since the artist had not visited the Midwest, he drew upon his general knowledge of the U.S.A. and included such unusual items as a windmill, cotton bales, and a lighthouse. In October, 1931, panic withdrawals, common in the days of the Great Depression, forced the bank to close for 177 days. In March, 1932, a group of local men reorganized the bank and chartered it anew as the "Newton National Bank." It was reopened with \$100,000 in capital stock.

In 1977 the bank was retitled "First Newton National Bank" and in 1981 additional space was acquired through purchase of the two adjacent buildings to the west. Today, the interior of the First Newton National Bank has been extensively remodeled and interconnected to the two buildings to the west of

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8. Statement of Significance, cont'd.

the bank. Those two additional buildings share a modern exterior (south) façade that is distinct from the classical design of the main bank building.

The first building that housed the institution was erected on the northwest corner of the town square. The Newton Savings Bank was organized in 1890 and was run in connection with the First Newton National Bank. Other banks established in Newton in that same era included the L.D. Clark Banking House, established in 1866, the Jasper County Savings Bank established in 1869, and the Farmers and Merchants State Bank, established in 1896.

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11. Additional Documentation – Maps

USGS 7.5 MINUTE TOPOGRAPHIC MAP – NEWTON QUAD (1965)



(MAP SOURCE: www.trails.com)

The location of the Newton Downtown Historic District, to which the resource is considered a contributing resource, is indicated by the outlined and shaded area.

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11. Additional Documentation – Maps

PARCEL MAP - 2011



(Source: Jasper County Assessor – 2011)

The location of the resource is shaded and indicated by the upward pointing arrow.

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PHOTOGRAPHS



(Image Source: Fred Chabot – 2010)

View of the resource, looking northwest across the intersection of N. 2nd Ave. W. and 1st St. N.

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11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

PHOTOGRAPHS



(Source: Fred Chabot – 2010)

View of the resource looking southwest across 1st Street N. From this position, the 1989 addition, with the one-story attachment to the historic building and the drive-through canopy, is visible.

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PHOTOGRAPHS



(Source: Fred Chabot – 2010)

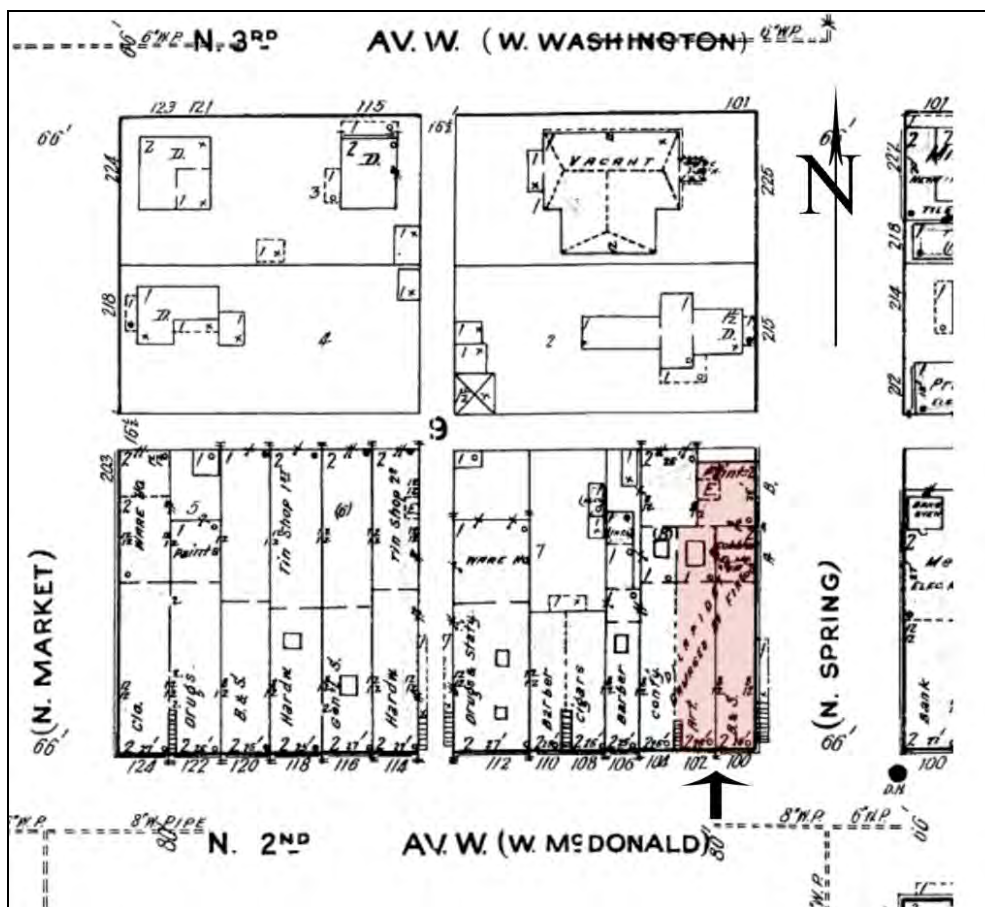
Detail view of the temple front pediment with bas relief and antefix, as well as the metopes and triglyphs of the frieze.

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11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAP – 1918



(SOURCE: <http://www.cbpl.lib.ia.us>. Accessed 12/26/2011)

As the 1918 fire insurance map indicates, the buildings that pre-date the First Newton National Bank were damaged by fire. By 1920, the new bank building had risen on the site.

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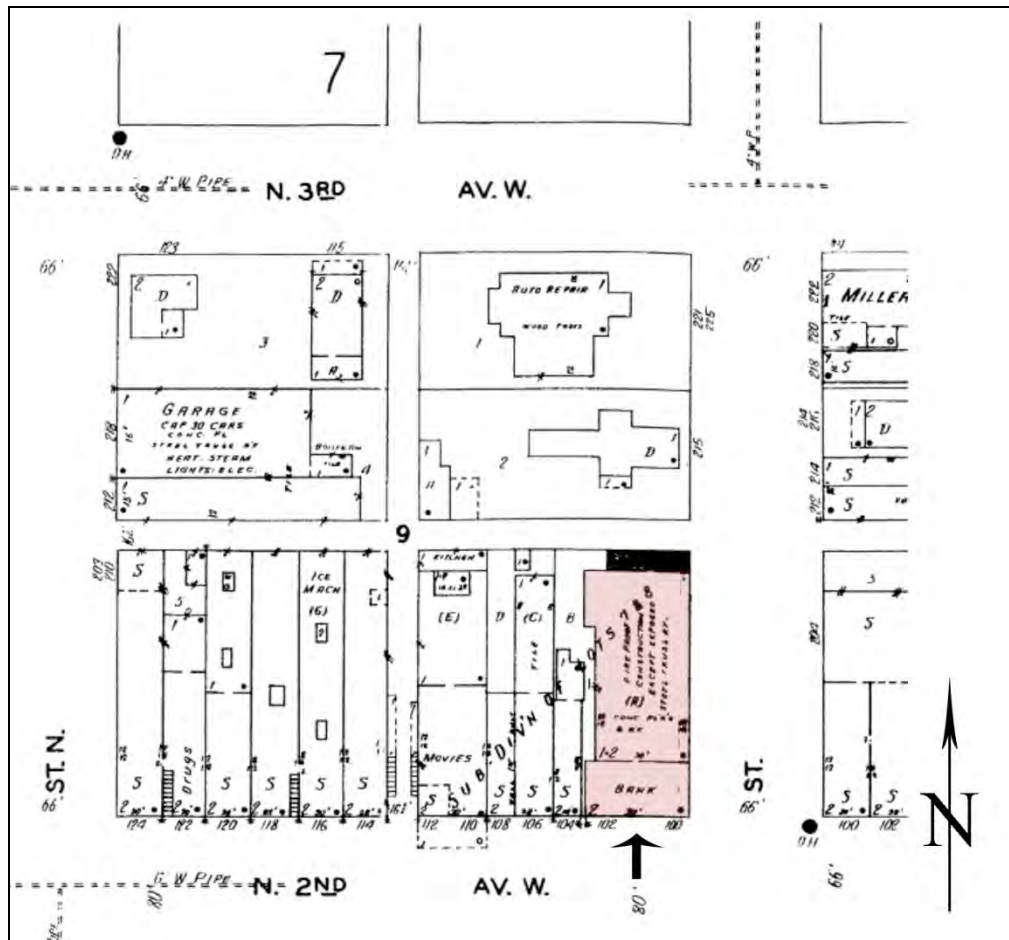
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SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAP – 1927



(SOURCE: <http://www.cbpl.lib.ia.us>. Accessed 12/26/2011)

The location of the resource is indicated. As the map notes, the First Newton National Bank was touted as a "fireproof" construction, the use of concrete in its construction making it so.

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HISTORIC IMAGES – ca. 1930



(SOURCE: Jasper County Historical Society)

This parade of Maytag Dairy Farm employees provides an historic view of the First Newton National Bank (far right).

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9. Major Bibliographic References

Larry Ray Hurto, comp. and ed., *A History of Newton, Iowa* (Dallas, TX: Curtis Media Corporation, 1992), pp. 255-56.

Past and Present of Jasper County, Iowa, Volume 1, edited by General James B. Weaver. Indianapolis, Indiana: B.F. Bowen and Company, 1912.

Internet resources

Jasper County Assessor www.iowaassessors.com

National Register of Historic Places www.nps.gov

Iowa State Historic Preservation Office

Database of Iowa resources www.iowahistory.org
Berry Bennett, Inventory & Information Management

Topographic Maps

Source for USGS Topographic maps www.beaonschneidercorp.com