

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

SENT TO D.C.
7-2-04

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name **People's State Bank**

other names/site number **Orangeville American Legion, Ewert Kline Post 720**

2. Location

street & number **300 W. High Street** Not for publication

city or town **Orangeville** vicinity

state **Illinois** code **IL** county **Stephenson** code **177** zip code **61060**

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

William Clark / SHPO
Signature of certifying official

7-1-04
Date

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

American Indian Tribe

4. 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

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	buildings
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	sites
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	structures
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	objects
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Social Sub: Meeting Hall
Commerce Financial Institution

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Commercial Style
Classical Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
roof Tar Paper
walls Brick
other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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.)

- a owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- b removed from its original location.
- c a birthplace or a 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)

Architecture

Period of Significance **ca. 1926**

Significant Dates **N/A**

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above) **N/A**

Cultural Affiliation **N/A**

Architect/Builder **Unknown**

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Name of repository: **Freeport Public Library, Freeport, Illinois**

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property **less than one acre**

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	282402	4705242	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title **Dr. John C. Buford**organization **N/A**date **26 February 2004**street & number **210 W. High Street**telephone **815-789-4005**city or town **Orangeville**state **IL**zip code **61060**

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name **John C. and Caryl L. Buford**street & number **210 W. High Street**telephone **815-789-4005**city or town **Orangeville**state **IL** zip code **61060**

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

Location and Setting

Orangeville, IL, is located in the northwestern corner of Illinois, two miles south of the Illinois-Wisconsin border and approximately fifty miles east of Galena, Illinois. The village of 800 residents, founded in 1851 and incorporated in 1867, is built in a vale, surrounded by farm land. At the western edge and low end of town, the Richland Creek runs north to south, paralleled by the old Illinois Central rail bed, now the Jane Addams Recreational Trail. The historic downtown is built along High Street and Main Street. High Street is the primary east-west corridor, which slopes uphill from the creek, reaching a high point in front of Central House, the historic hotel, just east of the Peoples Bank, continuing to the 1926 Illinois Route 26 bypass. The second historic and principal street, beginning in front of the hotel and running south, is Main Street. Main Street was the original major thoroughfare, becoming Freeport Road just south of the original town plat, and connecting the village to Freeport, Illinois, the region's largest metropolitan area with 27,000 residents. Completing the principal historic commercial intersection of High and Main Streets, the south corners of the "T" intersection are anchored by the historic Musser building (1888), the largest dry goods store in northwestern Illinois and southwestern Wisconsin when it was opened, on the southeast corner; and the historic Wagner building (1906), a store that competed with J. Musser's when it opened, on the southwest corner. The remainder of the historical downtown area includes the 1849 Union House (the original residence of the town founder and listed on the National Register), the 1876 Masonic Hall (also listed on the National Register), and homes and buildings dating from the 1847 through 1901.

Physical Description

The Peoples State Bank is an example of a Commercial Style building with Classical Revival detailing. It is a one-story building with a coherent classical vocabulary expressed in brick, glass, and concrete. The concrete foundation walls are about twelve inches thick. The roof is tar paper over wood. The interior walls and ceiling are lathe and plaster. All first floor windows have concrete sills. The main lobby ceiling soars fourteen feet over a terrazzo floor. The side walls are graced with four paned windows with arched tops that reach 13 feet; the three-bay front contains a central door with sidelights flanked by one-over-one windows with diamond-patterned transoms.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 2

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

Principal (South) Elevation:

The south facade is three bays wide. The main entrance is centered on the symmetrical facade and is recessed. The original large wood and glass panel door is flanked by symmetrical side window lights. The original front door, in fair condition, remains in place, with a diamond-patterned transom above the door and surround. There is a one over one window with diamond-design transom above on each side of the entry (central bay). These window lights were boarded over for many years. Below the window in the west bay shows signs that some brick was replaced in the east quadrant. In 1956, when a new bank, the Orangeville Community Bank, opened in this building, a night depository safe was installed at this location. The depository safe was removed and the area patched when the Community Bank moved to a new location in 1980.

East Elevation: The concrete foundation on which the bank sits, recedes as the ground slopes upward from the south (front) to the back of the building. At ground level, three covered window wells allow light into the basement. The northernmost window well has a wooden cover, which has been in place since at least 1956. There are four evenly spaced, single-hung three over one paned windows with arched top fanlights that provide light to the main lobby. All windows are original construction. Near the north end of the wall is a metal door, probably not original, which allows access to the back of the building.

West Elevation: The west elevation is like the east elevation without the door.

North Elevation:

The north elevation has two one-over-one double sash windows, providing light to the back room. In 1956, wrought iron bars were installed over the windows when the building was opened as the Orangeville Community Bank. One of these bars was cut and bent in the 1980s to allow the owner at that time to store and remove long mobile radio antennas in the basement.

Interior

All walls and ceilings are plaster. With one exception, the original pine doors are in very good condition and remain where originally hung. The one exception (one of the doors to a main floor office was removed during the 1956 renovation) is being replaced with a new door that will match the pattern of the historical doors. All windows have been restored to working condition. The building originally was heated with oil fired radiated steam heat. In the 1960s, the steam power plant was replaced with gas-fired hot water heat and the original radiators were replaced. Electrical service was upgraded in 1956, in 1981, and again in 2004.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 3

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

Main Floor

The main entrance leads to the foyer which measures about 5 ½' x 10'. The foyer has a 7 1/2 foot ceiling with a central translucent globe light (probably original), and a terrazzo floor. At the north end of the foyer is a glass-paneled door which leads to the main lobby of the bank. Flanking the foyer are small offices of identical size, 10 feet x 11 feet 4 inches. The floors of the two offices are yellow pine. The stained and varnished period pine door to the west office is set close to the foyer door and is accessed through the lobby. The east office has two similar doors leading to the lobby, one on the east side, next to the east exterior wall, and one on the west, placed symmetrically to the west office door. This door to the east office is the new door. The west door is original. The ceilings above the two offices are open, giving a view of the fourteen foot ceiling. With the exception of the 58" central one-over-one window with diamond pattern transom in the south wall of each office, there are no other windows in the offices. There is also a six foot long diamond-patterned transom above the ceiling of the foyer and in the south exterior wall.

The lobby is the largest room in the bank building, the interior measuring approximately 27 ½ feet wide and 38 feet long. The floor is terrazzo and has a terrazzo baseboard that covers the first eight inches of the wall. The south wall forms the two offices and the foyer, but extends only eight feet of the fourteen feet to the ceiling. The east and west walls each contain four 58" single-hung Palladian windows with fanlight transoms that reach from four feet above the floor to a thirteen foot height. The center stained and varnished original pine door on the north wall leads to the back room area. Above this door and centrally located, is the air conditioning vent, installed in the 1960s. On the northwest wall is a Mosler vault door dating to the period of the original opening of the bank. However, the door is not original to this bank. When the bank closed in 1932, the original door was sold. When the building was renovated to be a new bank in 1956, a vault door was purchased from a folded bank in a nearby town (Rock Grove, IL), and moved into this building. The ceiling and walls recently have been reconditioned: plaster patched and newly painted. The sconces which were located between the windows have been rewired. The original fixtures had been removed and new fixtures have been installed. New wiring also includes the addition of electrical sockets along the east and west wall. In order to cover the wiring, wainscoting has been installed to window level on the east, south and west walls, to include the east, west and south walls in the two front offices. The main vault measures 9' wide x 11' deep and is accessed only through the vault door.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 4

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

The north one-quarter of the building contains a hallway (being converted to a kitchen area), a minor vault with a vault door that was installed in 1956, a closet, one-half bathroom, and the stairs to the basement. The floor in this backroom area is yellow pine. The air conditioner unit is suspended from the 10 foot ceiling. In the southwest corner of the ceiling is access to a four-foot attic that covers only the backroom area.

Basement

Access to the full basement is gained by a stairway that begins just south of the rear exterior door. The two-level basement has a concrete floor. The north half of the basement, measuring about 27 ½ feet wide by 34 feet, is elevated and contains the heating unit and a small vault, 8' x 15') in the northwest corner. There is no vault door. In the 1980s, this area was further subdivided by non-supporting walls with drop ceilings. The two window wells that originally would have allowed light into this north half have been covered over from the outside. The west window is paneled over. The main south room is lower by two steps and is entered through a double swinging door, presumed original. The room measures about 27 1/2 feet wide and 30 feet long and has a nine foot ceiling. The east and west walls each have two original window wells, allowing some light from the outside. The windows are one-over-one double sash.

Integrity

The building has seen several changes over its lifetime: addition of a drop ceiling and covering of the exterior fanlights, addition of storm windows, and removal of a small bathroom in the first floor southwest room in 1956; the addition of central air conditioning in the 1960s; addition of a mansard roof, an interior non-supporting wall, another drop ceiling, and paneling, in the early 1980s. The drop ceilings, storm windows, exterior covering over the fanlights, the non-supporting wall, and paneling have been removed, returning the exterior and interior structure to its original configuration minus the bathroom.

Exterior: What has changed/what remains the same. The Mansard roof was removed in the spring of 2004, completely restoring the building's 1926 exterior construction.

Interior:

Foyer and main lobby, the first floor, what has changed: upgraded wiring and lighting; wainscoting to cover the wiring; replacement sconces; replacement office door on southeast office; air conditioning vent on center north wall; a period Mosler vault door installed in 1956; more modern hot water radiators installed in 1956; removal

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 5

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

of small bathroom in southwest office (removed in 1956).

What remains the same: floor plan; terrazzo floor; fourteen foot ceilings; paned windows with arched tops; woodwork; non-supporting office walls and doors; wall sconces; vault lay-out.

Back (north) room, what has changed: addition of main air-conditioning unit (1960s); addition of cabinets (2004); removal of safe deposit box review room (1980); upgraded wiring and lighting.

What remains the same: floor plan minus safe deposit review room; small vault and door; closet and door; ceiling height.

Basement.

South room, what has changed: upgrade of hot water radiator; upgraded lighting and wiring; drywall ceiling installed over plaster ceiling.

What remains the same: open floor plan, pass-through, double doors, window wells.

North area, what has changed: partitioning, drop ceiling, addition of sink, upgrade of gas hot water system.
What remains the same: vault location, window wells, east hallway and stairway.

According to *National Register Bulletin 16A*, "How to Complete the National Register Form," historic integrity is the ability of the property to illustrate significant aspects of its past through physical features that promote the overall sense of the property's relationship to past time and place. Seven aspects of integrity are considered significant: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The Peoples State Bank of Orangeville possesses a high degree of integrity based on these criteria. Although alterations to the property have occurred, the overall sense of design, workmanship, feeling and association are clearly present. The setting of the property has not been altered since it was built. The bank is located on its original site. Principal facades have not been altered. Interior changes have been reversed with a few exceptions.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 6

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

Statement of Significance

Description

Orangeville, Illinois, is located in northern Stephenson County, roughly two miles from the Wisconsin border, 11 miles south of Monroe, Wisconsin, 12 miles north of Freeport, Illinois, 35 miles west of Rockford, Illinois, and 60 miles east of Dubuque, Iowa. The People's State Bank, built in 1926, was the last significant historic public/commercial building constructed in Orangeville. The People's State Bank building was the capstone building of the downtown, reflecting the town's wealth and stature at its height. In 1926, the State of Illinois began construction of a bypass to the east of Orangeville, which began a slow decline from which the downtown has never recovered. In 1932, the bank folded and closed its doors.

Summary

The only commercial style building with Classical Revival influence in the town, the People's State Bank building is located immediately to the west of Central House, which presides at the head of the town's business district, at the "T" intersection formed by Main Street and High Street, the two major commercial streets in the town's business district. The rectangular footprint of the building measures 30' x 64' (exterior), and has one floor plus a full basement. The upstairs is comprised of a foyer and eight rooms: a small room on each side of the foyer, a main lobby, the main vault, and in the north (back) one-third of the main floor, a small vault, closet, storage area, and bathroom. The building is constructed of brick with a poured concrete basement. The building is the most ornate building in the downtown area, located on the second highest lot. (The hotel occupies the highest ground.) There is no landscaping on the property. According to Richard Longstreth in his book *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture*, the one-part commercial block has only a single story, which is treated in much the same variety of ways as the lower zone of the two-part commercial block. The one-part commercial block developed during the mid nineteenth century and became popular across the country. The examples from this era were very simple in design and were common for retail businesses. The street frontage was narrow and the facade comprised little more than plate glass windows and an entry surmounted by a cornice or parapet. During the Victorian Era, the one-part commercial block was also applied to banks. The banks, which were mostly brick, differed from the retail one-part commercial blocks in that they were generally taller and more ornate. In the early twentieth century, the differences between the retail shops and banks were less pronounced as the designs of both became more restrained. While composed in an orderly manner, most examples from the period have few if any historical references. The examples of one-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 7

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

part commercial blocks built during the 1920s showed a return to ornamentation.

The People's State Bank has the defining characteristics of the one-part commercial block. It is a single-story building that has the massing of a simple box and the basic divisions of a storefront. The façade is divided into three parts: an entrance emphasized by a parapet and recessed opening, with a large window on either side. The street frontage of the bank is also narrow, which is another characteristic of this type. The details show influences of Classical Revival architecture, which was a popular style for banks.

Classical Revival Style and Bank Architecture

The Chicago 1893 Columbian Exposition was extremely influential in the early twentieth century commercial architecture, resulting in a parade of historical architectural styles and devices. This revivalist architecture dominated the design of public buildings through 1930. American bank building construction took its inspiration, for the most part, from Classical architecture. Not only the structure, but the principles of finance were rooted in the Roman civilization. Just as the Romans used their temples to house government banks, the classical temple came to represent the same principles in the United States. The structure that represents financial solidarity must convey importance, permanence, monumentality, and clarity of design.

Bank architecture and construction are the core of the commercial district. The bank building is an index of the community's achievement, health, and potential. Major cities set the tone for smaller communities, so throughout the United States, there is hardly a small town that does not boast a bank building as the most pretentious building in the community. Orangeville is no exception. Local residents wanted their commercial buildings, and especially their bank, to appear urban and prosperous as a reflection of the community. While simple in design, the People's State Bank has features which show the influence of the Classical Revival bank. It is small but with its masonry construction, it gives the appearance of stability, a quality which banks wished to convey to their customers. Other influences include its symmetrical design, the brick divisions on the wall plane which resemble pilasters, and the semi-circular fanlights above the secondary façades' windows.

The most favorable locations for a bank were the corner of a wide avenue or public square. Located at the "T" created by the two main business streets of Orangeville on the second highest lot, the People's State Bank was ideally situated. As commercial architecture dictated, the most decorated elevation faced the principal street and served as the entrance. Lot configuration was the most significant determinant of form, and the rectangular plan

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 8

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

was ideal for the narrow lot. Abutting structures adjacent to the bank added to the significance of the collective image, and the bank was built next to the only three-story building in the village, the town hotel, Central House. In the first quarter of the century, the design of bank interiors favored an entrance leading to the large banking room, lobby or hall. Patrons entered the foyer, then proceeded to the spacious lobby of the Peoples State Bank, whose size reinforced the customer's sense of the bank's solidity and safety. Vaults were prominently displayed. There was a close and convenient connection between the working space and the employees who conveyed the valuables to vaults and safes at the end of each day.

Characteristics of the Peoples State Bank, Orangeville.

The Peoples State Bank of Orangeville is a significant as the unique one-part commercial block building with Classical Revival detailing in Orangeville. The Classical Revival architectural style was popular for civic and commercial structures before World War II. It is prominently located at the intersection of the village's two major arteries. As the last of the downtown historic commercial buildings, it represents a different era of commercial architecture in the town. The bank building mimicked the popular styles for banking architecture of the day and compares favorably to other examples of historic commercial architecture in the small towns within a fifty mile radius of Orangeville. Executed in brick and sporting a terrazzo floor, it was crafted to last, and despite some minor alterations in the interior, is clearly recognizable as an important historic commercial building much as it was more than 75 years ago when it was built.

The Peoples State Bank and the History of Orangeville.

The Peoples State Bank was built 76 years after the founding of the Village of Orangeville. The village was founded in 1851 and incorporated in 1867. The town founder, John Bower, plotted the village in April, 1851. The lot where the People's State Bank building is located is across the alley west of Central House, currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and on the north side of the street that defined the north boundary of the original town, High Street.

In the 1830s and early 1840s, farmers from New York and Pennsylvania moved onto the fertile and cheap lands of the Central States. Dr. Thomas Van Valsah led a wagon train of Pennsylvanian settlers to Stephenson County in 1837. These people of German descent were known as Pennsylvania Deutsche (German) or "Pennsylvania Dutch." Thirteen of the first fourteen settlers to the area that would become Orangeville were Pennsylvania Deutsche. The fourteenth was German.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 9

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

Simon Davis is given credit as being one of the first to settle in Oneco Township about 1833. On January 1, 1838, John H. Curtis purchased eighty acres from the United States government at the Dixon Land Office, land that was destined to become Orangeville. Curtis built a primitive dam on the Richland Creek and constructed a gristmill and sawmill nearby on the west side of the creek. He also built a log cabin. In 1843 Curtis died and the mills lay idle until John Bower, who had visited the area in 1845, arrived with his family in 1846 and purchased the 80 acres and mills.

Daniel B. Bobb grew up in Oneco Township and provided some insight into the settlement of Orangeville in his autobiography (Quoted from the 1970 History of Stephenson County):

In the fall of 1845 David Bobb, John Bower, Jacob Walter, Daniel Riem, and Colonel John Gift came with wagons from Pennsylvania to Stephenson County. Daniel's father and Uncle Jacob finally found an empty basswood cabin "about sixteen by twenty-two feet and six feet high, one room, where Orangeville now stands, into which both families moved, sixteen persons all." [This may have been the cabin built by John Curtis, who had died in 1843.]

Initially, Orangeville was in direct competition with the village of Oneco as growing center of commerce, and by 1854, the government determined that the population between the two villages was enough to establish a post office. According to a letter written by a resident of the time, the determination was made by announcing that, on an appointed day, people lined up on one side of the road or the other, depending on which village they supported. Orangeville won by the thinnest of margins. The Civil War had some impact on the development and growth of Orangeville, but the effects were not long lasting. As stated in the 1880 History of Stephenson County by M.H. Tilden:

In 1861, the breaking-out of the war caused a large increase in the volume of business done by the merchants, which was materially diminished for some years thereafter, owing to the unsettled condition of affairs throughout the county, the departure of volunteers, and other causes producing similar effects elsewhere. The last half of the decade beginning with 1860, however, witnessed an improved state of public feeling, producing a better market for commodities and correspondingly prosperous times. Orangeville of course participated in these benefits, and so pronounced was the success which attended

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 10

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

her development and building-up, that in 1867 the village was incorporated as a town, with such prerogatives and privileges appertaining thereto as by law are conferred, including town officers.

Orangeville continued to prosper. By 1887, Orangeville was well on its way to becoming the second city of Stephenson County. The downtown was essentially complete by the 1870s with all commercial lots having been sold and improved. By 1877, the Village had attained a population of over 300. In 1883, the first village newspaper, The Orangeville Alert, began publication. But the real commercial building boom began in 1888, with the coming of the Illinois Central Railroad. When the ICRR decided to link Freeport, Illinois, and Madison, Wisconsin, in 1887, the only incorporated village directly on the line between Freeport and Monroe, Wisconsin, was Orangeville.

The coming of the railroad set off an unprecedented boom in the building industry. Fourteen new brick buildings were erected as a direct outcome of this venture. They included the brick buildings in the downtown area minus the Wagner Building (1906) and the R. W. Moore Building (1899). Other businesses along the two streets between 1888 and 1914 included a drug store, barber shop, banks, restaurants, watch and clock repair shop and jewelry store, grocery stores, two meat markets and butcher shops, ice cream parlor, hardware and pump repair shop, cigar factory, implement shop, piano store, Lillian Nolf Mahaney's Hat Shop, tin shop, furniture store, furniture and casket factory, funeral parlor, harness shop, shoe repair shop and store, J. Musser Dry Goods and General Store, Wagner General Store and hardware, Confer Patent Medicine Company, tailor, two livery stables and feed sales, photography studio, millinery, and a new hotel, Central House, erected in 1890.

In 1925, the two state banks of the then three banks in town merged, and began construction of the last significant commercial building in the historical downtown, the People's State Bank building. However, during 1926, just prior to the Great Depression, Illinois State Highway 74 (later Illinois State Route 26) replaced Church Alley on the east of the village, bypassing the heart of the historic downtown. The business district no longer was served by the traffic flow of a major thoroughfare. Despite this major turn of misfortune, many of the downtown businesses continued to survive, at least for a time. But by 1928, the signs of a slow decline for the once-thriving community of Orangeville were becoming clear. With a shriveling downtown business presence and a bypass mentality, the Village experienced little expansion, negative growth, and moved toward bedroom community status. The bypass around the Village and the 1932 Depression continued to affect the town

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 11

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

negatively. In 1932, the Peoples State Bank, the last remaining bank in Orangeville, closed. The building was sold to the new American Legion Post #720 (formed 1921), and the building began its long service as the American Legion Hall. In 1956, the building was resold to a group of local people who wanted to restart a bank in town. The building remained a bank until 1980, when it was sold to serve as a radio sales and repair business. In August, 2002, Stateline Communications closed its doors and sold the building to ACT - A Community Together, who sold it to the current owners, John and Caryl Buford, in October, 2003. The building has been vacant since August, 2002.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 12

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- American Architecture Since 1780, A Guide to Styles* (Marcus Whiffen, MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 1969)
- The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture*, Richard Longstreth, Washington, D.C., Preservation Press, 1987.,
- Business Directory of Stephenson County for 1876-7* (Gardner & Gaines, Journal Steam Book and Job Office, Vol 1, SEPT. 1876, Freeport, IL)
- Citizens National Bank, Springville, Erie County, New York*, National Register Nomination, Elizabeth Bakker-Johnson, December 1995.
- County and City Data Book, 1952* (United States Bureau of the Census, Washington, 1952)
- The Editor and Publisher Market Guide for 1955* (The Editor and Publisher Company, New York, 1955)
- Fare Thee Well, Palaces and Plush for the Populace* (Leslie Dorsey and Janice Devine, Crown Publishers, Inc. New York, 1964)
- Freeport Journal Standard, Orangeville* (3 AUG 1887)
- Freeport Journal Standard, Railroad Statistics* (22 SEPT 1887)
- Freeport Journal Standard, Ready for the Rails* (28 SEPT 1887)
- Freeport Journal Standard, Classmates of 1880 Entertained by Mrs. S. Bolender* (13 AUG 1943)
- History of Banking in Illinois Since 1863*, Joseph William Carlton, Chicago: University of Chicago Libraries, 1939.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 13

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

The History of Stephenson County, Illinois, M.H. Tilden (Western Historical Company, Chicago, 1880)

History of Stephenson County, Illinois, Addison L. Fulwider (S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, Chicago, 1910)

History of Stephenson County, 1970, (Kable Printing Co, Mt Morris, IL, 1972)

Illinois: A Descriptive and Historical Guide, The American Guide Series (A.C. McClurg & Company, Chicago, 1939)

In the Footprints of the Pioneers, A Genealogical Record (Pioneer Publishing Co, Freeport, IL, 1900)

Inventory of the County Archives of Illinois: No. 89, Stephenson County (The Historical Records Survey, Chicago, 1938)

Longstreth, Richard. *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture*. Washington, D. C.: The Preservation Press, 1987.

Money Matters: A Critical Look at Bank Architecture, William Gilman Lyford, New York: McGraw-Hill, 1990.

*Orangeville Courier** (Saturday, April 18, 1891)

Portrait and Biographical Album of Stephenson County, IL (Chicago Chapman Brothers, 1888)

Railroads of Southern and Southwestern Wisconsin: Development to Decline (Danile J. Lanz, Monroe, WI, 1985)

The Rand McNally Commercial Atlas for 1955 (Rand McNally Company, 1955)

Recent Bank Buildings in the U.S., Louise A. Osling, *Architectural Record*, January, 1909, 1-86.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 14

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

Some Ideas on Bank Buildings—Artistic and Practical, with Illustrations of Buildings by the Author, Alfred Hopkins, *Architectural Forum* (1922) 1-8.

Stephenson County Residents, Newspaper Articles, Freeport Public Library Scrapbook

This is Stephenson County, Illinois (John Drury, American Aerial County History Series No. 27, Loree Com, Chicago, IL, 1955)

Waukegan Building, Lake County, IL, National Register Nomination, Linda Peters, August, 2002.

Western Historical Company, 1880, Windmill Publications, Inc., 1990 reprint.

* The *Orangeville Courier* was purchased by H.V. Hartzell in 1888 from Louis Hutchins and was then published continuously until January 1933 weekly. *The ALERT* was the first Orangeville newspaper, 1883-1889.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 15

People's State Bank, Stephenson County, IL

Verbal Boundary Description

"The property commonly known as 300 W. High Street, Orangeville, Illinois 61060, situated in the County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, and legally described as follows:

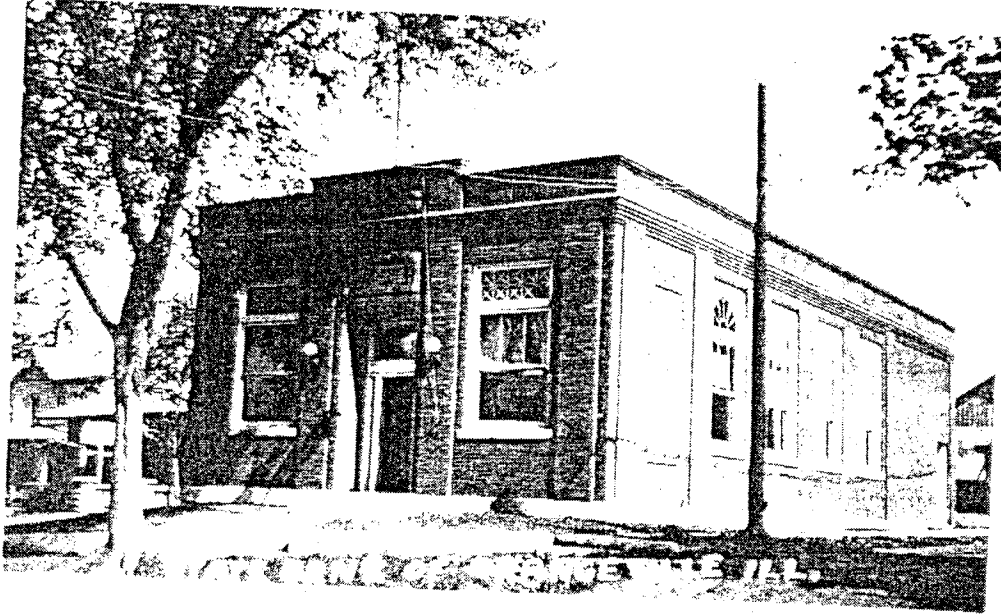
Part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 36, Township 29 North, Range 7 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, described as follows:

Beginning at a Post which stands eighteen (18) feet West from the Southwest corner of Lot 1 in Bower's Addition to Orangeville; thence running North parallel with said Lot 1, 132 feet to a post; thence West 51 feet to the place of beginning. Situated in the Village of Orangeville, County of Stephenson, State of Illinois.

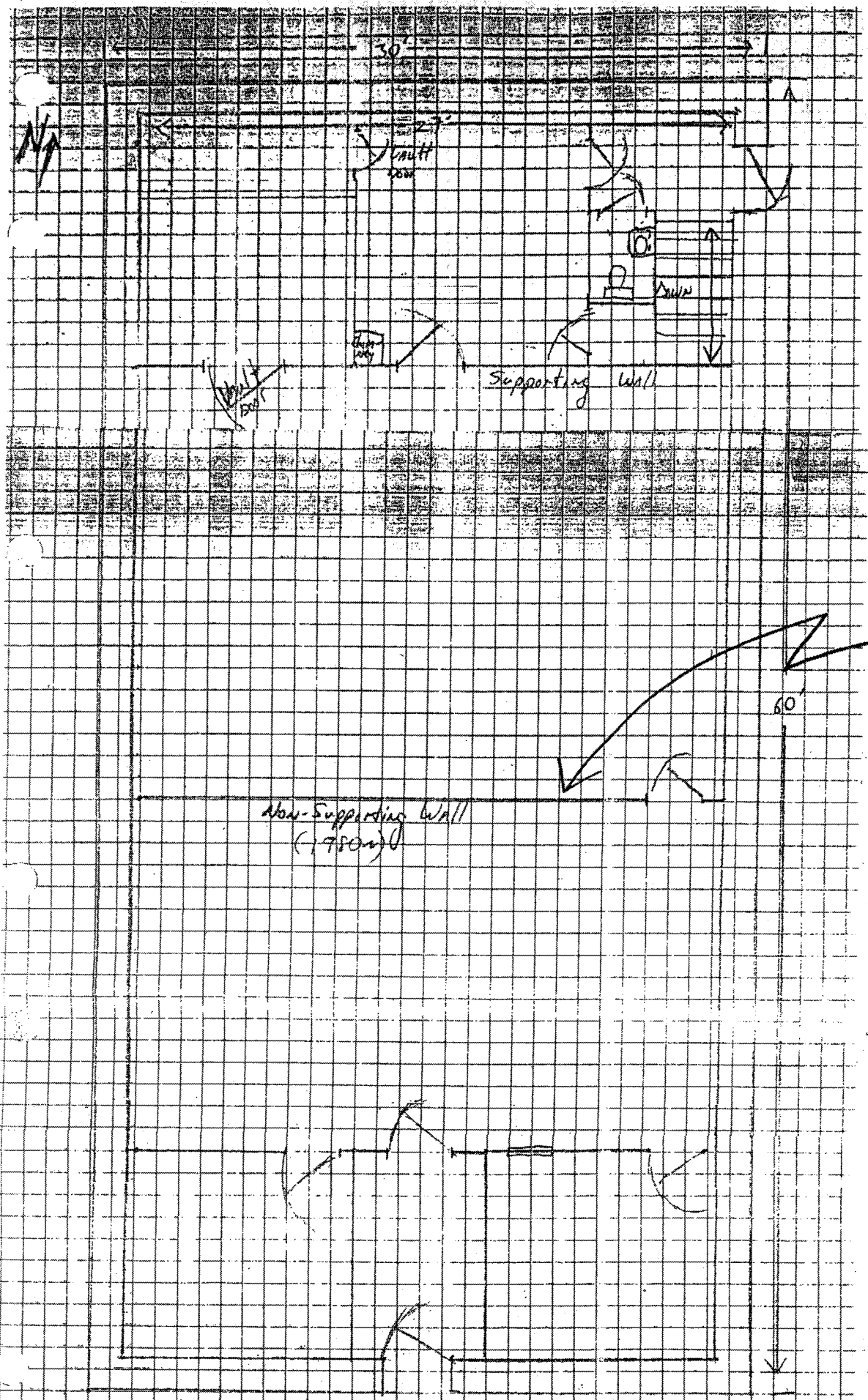
Permanent Index Number(s) 16-03-36-177-002

Boundary Justification

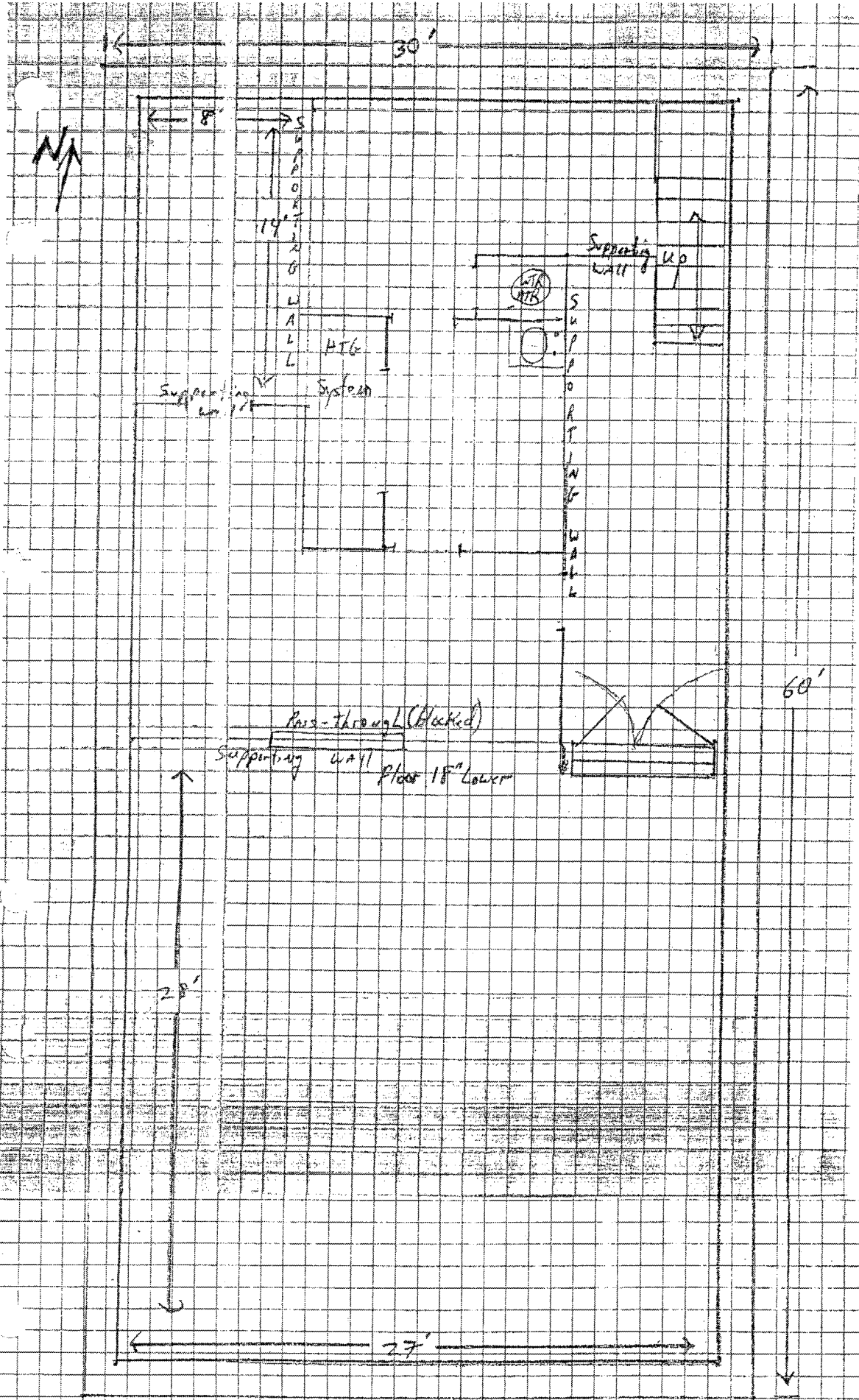
The boundary includes the building and lot historically associated with the People's State Bank.



People's State Bank of Orangeville, constructed 1926.
This is the most recent building erected in downtown Orangeville. In 1925, Orangeville boasted three banks. In 1926, the two state banks merged to form the People's State Bank of Orangeville.



people's STATE BANK



(Basement)

1 block = 1 ft

People's STATE BANK
300 W. HIGH ST